Christopher A. Graesser

www.chrisgraesser.com

Intern architect with a background in mechanical engineering.

Professional Experience

Architectural Intern
July 2012-
September 2012

Integrated Design Lab | www.idlseattle.com   Seattle, WA
High performance building research group affiliated with the University of Washington

During my time at the IDL, I was the lead architect on a small project to design an educational display system for a research group at the University of Washington. The Advanced Materials for Energy Research Group (AME), among other activities, conducts research into new technologies for solar energy. They required a display system to showcase their research efforts, as well as explain basic solar energy concepts.

I took the lead in designing the display system and coordinating with the scientists at the AME on formatting the content for the display. This project was a great experience in working wtih clients from backgrounds outside of design, and my experience in engineering was a real plus in bridging the gap between our two different fields.

Architectural Intern
June 2011-
September 2011

William Zimmerman Architects | www.wzarch.com   Seattle, WA
Architectural firm specializing in residential design

Due to the size and focus of this firm, I was able to be involved in all stages of the design process, from schematic design to permit submission to contract preparation. The projects I worked on ranged from new construction to additions and renovations.

Primarily, I helped prepare and revise construction documents for several projects. This included revising drawings under supervision of senior architects, and drafting new drawing sets, including plans, sections, detail drawings, wall sections, and interior elevations.

Additionally, I constructed detailed Sketchup models for several projects to assist senior architects during the schematic design and design development stages, and to present proposed designs to clients.

Architectural Intern
March 2010-
September 2010

Field Architecture | www.fieldarchitecture.com   Palo Alto, CA
Award winning design practice with a focus in residential design

While at Field Architecture, I assisted in the design and development of several projects by building site and concept models. Projects included
a private residence in the South African outback, for which I built a site model and several study models, an electric car factory and showroom in Hawaii, a private residence in Napa, and a conservation center in South Africa, which was awarded a 2010 *Progressive Architecture Award* by *Architect Magazine*.

Additionally, for several projects, I assisted in the creation of renderings for presenting designs to clients and communicating with collaborating designers.

Research and Development Engineer
2008-2009

Mevicon, Inc. | www.mevicon.com   Sunnyvale, CA
Small startup specializing in development of space and commercial products

While at Mevicon, I led research efforts in the control of reflective optics for space telescopes and satellite dishes. As part of research efforts, I designed and constructed several pieces of custom high-precision experimental equipment.

Controls Engineer
2004-2008

Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co.   Sunnyvale, CA
Leading aerospace, defense, and advanced technology company

During my time at Lockheed, I was part of a multidisciplinary engineering team designing and constructing high-precision, high-performance opto-mechanical systems. I co-led efforts to create control systems for several different mechanisms, both prototype and deliverable.

Contact

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Seattle, WA 98103

Education

Masters of Architecture,
3+ Year Program

University of Washington
Seattle, WA
2010-2013
GPA: **3.83/4.00**
(AIA Henry Adams Medal)

Masters of Science in
Mechanical Engineering

University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign, IL
2002-2004
GPA: **3.92/4.00**

Bachelors of Science in
Mechanical Engineering

University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign, IL
1998-2002
GPA: **3.99/4.00**

Software

Revit 2012
Autocad 2011
Rhinoceros
Solidworks
V-Ray
Sketchup
Adobe Indesign
Adobe Illustrator
Adobe Photoshop
Microsoft Office Suite

Honors and awards

- Bronze Tablet Recipient, University of Illinois, 2002
  (Top 3% in graduating class in the University)
- University of Illinois Fellowship, 2003
- Architect Magazine Progressive Architecture Award,
  project team at Field Architecture

- Architecture Department end of year show, 2011, 2012, 2013
- Gerald Allison Scholarship, 2011
- Herman Pundt Memorial Scholarship, 2012
- AIA Henry Adams Medal, awarded to the top-ranking graduate
  student in the architecture department, 2013