

## Dj Merrill

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### Education:

*University of Maine*

*Orono, Maine*

Degree: B.A. with Distinction - May, 1990

Major: Computer Science

Minor: Electrical Engineering

*University of Central Florida*

*Orlando, Florida*

Degree: M.A. - May, 1999

Major: Instructional Technology

### Work Experience:

#### Summary:

30+ years experience as a Systems/Security/Network administrator, 25+ years experience creating and supporting Research Computing environments, and 17+ years experience designing/implementing/managing High Performance Computing environments.

My passion is to create the very best research environment possible to enable people to accomplish great things, and have fun doing it. I love working in Academia and being part of cool and exciting research projects, and being immersed in an innovative and creative atmosphere.

Mar 2008 – present

*Bowdoin College*

*Brunswick, Maine*

Director of High Performance Computing at Bowdoin College. Created the HPC program, starting from seed funds from a single faculty member in the Chemistry department, and have expanded the program to include a variety of disciplines across campus.

Support a wide range of research interests within the campus Linux environment spread across multiple departments, including Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Digital and Computational Studies, Environmental Studies, Economics, Geology, History, Sociology, Math, and Physics, as well as many individual student and faculty research projects.

Designed and implemented a research computing environment tightly integrated with the core campus infrastructure, including authentication, storage, printing, software license services, etc., while collaborating closely with faculty, students, and staff to ensure the success of their research efforts.

Mar 2005 – Mar 2008 *Department of Economics, Duke University* *Durham, North Carolina*  
Lead Infrastructure/Unix Systems Administrator for the Department of Economics at Duke University. Responsible for designing and implementing a new computing infrastructure for the Department, and converting/upgrading from the old system.

Infrastructure included a High Performance Computing cluster, department wide services such as authentication (Kerberos), email, web (Apache), DDNS, DHCP, MySQL, shared file systems (Andrew File System, Samba), print services (CUPS, LPD), etc. to support 150+ Linux, Windows, and Mac clients, including administrative, academic, and research environments.

Worked closely with researchers, faculty, staff, and students to collaborate on their computing needs, and coordinate with multiple other people and entities to meet that goal.

Jul 2004 – Mar 2005 *Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy, UCF* *Orlando, Florida*  
Technical Resource Manager (contract position, limited duration) for the Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy at the University of Central Florida. Responsible for designing and implementing the initial computing and network infrastructure for the newly formed Academy, including the specifications for security, connectivity, core computing services, research and academic needs, and personnel to support Unix (Linux) and Windows computing environments.

Jan 2000 – Jul 2004 *Thayer School of Engineering, Dartmouth College* *Hanover, New Hampshire*  
Associate Director of Technical Services for the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College, which was essentially the Lead Infrastructure/Systems Administrator for the school's computing support team.

Responsible for the computer, security, and network administration of the school's infrastructure, including academic and research computing labs and servers, and multiple HPC clusters. Primary servers were Dell Linux, SGI Irix and Windows machines, and the clients consist of SGI Irix, Redhat Linux, Windows, and Macs.

Services include AFS (Andrew File System), SSH/SFTP, Samba, DNS, NTP, DHCP, HTTPD, MySQL, FlexLM licensing, data backups, centralized e-mail (Sendmail/IMAP) and printing (LPRng). Designed and implemented firewall security systems to handle wireless, research, and production networks. Integrated Unix and Windows systems into a cohesive network (People have a single login account for use on both Unix and Windows, and access to the same network resources (files, printers, etc.) from both operating systems). Instituted web based Helpdesk case tracking system. Installed and maintained multiple engineering software packages (PTC Pro/Engineer, Matlab, TekPlot, Analyze, Maxwell, Fluent, and others). Supported over 1400 people across a wide spectrum of capabilities and interests. Coordinated projects with faculty, staff, students, campus central computing services and commercial vendors, and was the project lead for various and diverse technical projects.

Jan 1999 - Jan 2000 *Chemistry Department, Boston University* *Boston, Massachusetts*  
Director of Computer Resources for the Chemistry Department at Boston University, responsible for the systems and network administration of the department's computing and research facilities, including specialized research and chemical labs, an administrative network, and a general access computer lab.

Primary servers were SGI Irix, Linux, Sun Solaris and SunOS machines. The networked clients include SGI Irix, Linux, Sun Solaris, Microsoft Windows, and Macs. Supported departmental NIS, NFS, NTP, SMTP, DHCP, FlexLM and HTTPD Unix based services. Departmental e-mail (IMAP, POP), printing (Samba, NetaTalk, LPRng), and file sharing (Samba, NetaTalk) services were supported that allow a cohesive integration of the Unix, PC, and Macintosh machines. Responsible for system and network security of all computer resources. Designed on-line Helpdesk website for user information/training, and implemented web based Helpdesk case tracking system. Management responsibilities included the direct supervision of two part-time employees, and the indirect supervision of over 100 research students and teaching fellows.

Oct 1993 - Jan 1999 *Institute for Simulation and Training, UCF* *Orlando, Florida*  
Initially the Senior Systems Administrator for the Visual Systems Lab at the Institute for Simulation and Training at the University of Central Florida, then promoted to Associate in Information Services in 1996 and became the Senior Systems Administrator for the entire Institute's computing and network facilities, including several specialized research labs including Virtual Reality, Simulation, and Network Protocol labs, and an administrative network.

The network was TCP/IP based, with Appletalk protocol support for some older Macintosh devices. Internal DNS, NIS, NFS, NTP, SMTP, DHCP, FlexLM and HTTPD servers were supported. Responsible for specification and implementation of all internal and external network connections, and all network facilities, including all network security issues. Servers and workstations supported included several flavors of Unix (SGI Irix, Sun SunOS/Solaris, DEC OSF/Ultrix, NeXT, and Linux), Windows 2k/NT/98/95, and Mac OS. Router products included Cisco, Alantec (Fore), and Lucent, with supporting networking equipment made by 3COM.

Management responsibilities included the direct supervision of several full time employees and part time student employees. Coordinated and assisted researchers and project managers with computing requirements for proposal preparation, and implemented required technology to support those projects.

Mar 1993 - Oct 1993 *University of Florida CIS Department* *Gainesville, Florida*  
Senior Systems Administrator (temporary position) for the Computer and Information Sciences Department. Managed computer facilities and 15 person Computer Support Staff. Facilities included a seven subnet ethernet network connecting several research laboratories, 150+ Sun Unix workstations, 50+ PC-based computers, some Macintoshes, dial-in terminal servers, and various other network support equipment.

- Jul 1992 - Mar 1993 *Advanced Data Systems* *Bangor, Maine*  
 Technical Support Consultant for Unix, Novell, and MS-DOS networks running on 10BASE-T, RG-58 Coax, and Arcnet cabling. Installed, modified, and maintained SCO Unix, Xenix, and Novell 2.x and 3.x servers, clients, and terminals across the state of Maine. Recommended and installed communications methods such as NCSA Telnet (TCP/IP, Novell IPX) and RS-232 serial links. Trained and consulted customers on a variety of software and hardware configurations. Diagnosed software and hardware conflicts and failures.
- Sep 1990 - Jul 1992 *University of Maine NCGIA* *Orono, Maine*  
 System and Network Coordinator for the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA) and Dept. of Surveying Engineering. Managed 60+ networked workstations, including BSD Unix, System V Unix, VMS, Novell, MS-DOS, and Macintosh machines. Responsible for design, installation, maintenance, management, and security of Ethernet (TCP/IP, DECNET, Novell IPX) and Appletalk networks. Recommended and purchased network and computer related software and hardware. Supervised one part time student on a daily basis, and various graduate students as needed. Assisted and trained faculty and students with various aspects of the network including electronic mail, network communications, and other miscellaneous software and hardware applications.
- Dec 1988 - Sep 1990 *University of Maine Computing & Data Processing* *Orono, Maine*  
 Programmer in Systems Programming group, working primarily with IBM's VM/SP operating system and VM/CMS component running on various System/370 mainframes. Duties and responsibilities included writing software fixes and utility programs, installing vendor products, administering large database programs, and designing and implementing original software projects.
- Jun 1988 - Dec 1988 *Saint Joseph's Hospital* *Bangor, Maine*  
 Computer Operator. Operated IBM systems 34 and 36, organized and distributed various department reports, and assisted other hospital employees with the computer system and accessories.

**Computer Experience:**

- Languages:* Primarily Unix shell scripts these days, but I have had experience in C, Pascal, Fortran, Basic, Forth, Rexx, Motorola/Intel assembler, and HTML. However, I would not consider myself an applications programmer by any means. My expertise is in systems/network administration.
- Operating Systems:* Unix (Linux, SGI Irix, Sun SunOS/Solaris, DEC OSF/Ultrix, Intergraph System V, IBM AIX), IBM VM/SP(CMS), VMS, MS-DOS, Macintosh, Novell, Microsoft Windows (95, 98, NT, 2k, XP, 2003), Atari OS
- Hardware:* SGI, Dell, Sun, and various workstations and servers, IBM mainframes, IBM RT, various PCs, NeXT, Digital workstations (Unix, VMS), Apple and Atari computers, and various network communication devices (Cisco, FORE/Alantec, 3COM and other router and switches, various types of cabling), and a wide variety of independent hardware projects

*Interests:* Private Pilot, Amateur Aircraft Builder (<https://deej.net/sportsman>), Amateur Ham Radio (N1JOV), Interactive Telepresence, Robotics, Alpha Phi Omega (National Service Fraternity)

*Special:* Designed and developed telepresence robot (R.O.V.E.R.), and exhibited in "The Edge" section of SIGGRAPH '94 in Orlando (<https://deej.net/rover/>)

Assisted with IST Toy Scout Virtual Reality exhibit in SIGGRAPH '95

Improved R.O.V.E.R. telepresence robot with stereo vision, stereo audio, and head tracking. Exhibited in "Digital Bayou" section of SIGGRAPH '96

Assisted with implementation of the backbone computer network at SIGGRAPH '97

Helped design and exhibit IST's "Media and Mythology" project at SIGGRAPH '98

Team Leader for the Student Volunteer group in the Creative Applications Lab venue for SIGGRAPH '99

SIGGRAPH 2000 Committee member for the Student Volunteer sub-committee.

SIGGRAPH 2001 Committee member for the Student Volunteer sub-committee.

SIGGRAPH 2002 Committee member for the Student Volunteer sub-committee.

*Consulting Services:* Designed and installed primary server for U.S. Army STRICOM research facility. Server was a Sun Sparc10 running SunOS. Functions include primary DNS for STRICOM's class B network, custom sendmail setup supporting an interface to Lotus CC:Mail with 1000+ users, httpd web server, system backups, and security.

Configured and setup primary server for U.S. Navy research facility. Server configuration was similar to the STRICOM installation.

Setup computer network for Walt Disney Post Production Studios. Network consisted of Silicon Graphics workstations, and a Linux server supporting sendmail, NFS for primary data areas, and system backups. Office PC and Macintosh computers access the network through TCP/IP utilities.