Chris Deaton
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Professional Summary

Dynamic and visionary leader with over 20 years of experience driving innovation in product management, community building, and responsible innovation across the educational and technology sectors. Adept at leading large-scale technical and cultural transformations, fostering communities rooted in ethical standards, and delivering results on time and under budget. Passionate about advancing technological and community well-being through collaborative, cross-functional teams. **Committed to leveraging these skills to drive impactful and sustainable change in future roles.**

Professional Experience

Arizona State University – Tempe, AZ
Responsible Innovation Faculty, School for the Future of Innovation in Society (1/22-present)

- Established the Responsible Innovation Lab, evolving it from the Responsible Innovation Guild, to provide experiential learning opportunities and create a job pipeline for learners.

- Developed and led the Responsible Innovation Capstone program, focusing on Principled Innovation and experiential learning, including creating the Introduction to Responsible Innovation class.

- Spearheaded the Future 17 program, successfully securing partnerships with ASU's NextLab from Enterprise Technology and the College of Global Futures, which became the primary supporter and funder. Collaborated with Christine Whitney-Sanchez's Culture Community of Practice (COP) to ensure the program's alignment with ASU's strategic goals. In two semesters I have doubled enrollment.

- Led SFIS Fall 2023 Capstone Team to victory in the International Gatorade Futures Challenge.

- Established partnerships with external organizations (Steadynamic, Central Arizona Shelter Services) to help support and progress students' careers within the Responsible Innovation Lab.

- I bring in students. 50% of my research students come to me from other departments.

- I keep students. 40% of my students take more than one class from me.

- I have doubled enrollment in the programs I facilitated over the last 3 years.

Senior Product Manager, Enterprise Technology (4/2015-6/2024)

- Helped establish the Community of Practice in our Culture department, led by Christine Whitney-Sanchez, in the University Technology Office by creating and managing various workgroups.

- Served as the primary product owner for critical systems, including DARS, eAdvisor, and Portfolio, as well as various appointment-setting systems and mobile implementations, driving successful implementation and user adoption.

- Directed the Zoom Sync project, which enabled student success and aligned with ASU's mission of inclusivity by ensuring access during critical times, especially during the shift to remote learning.

- Led cross-departmental initiatives that engaged multiple ASU units, ensuring alignment with the university's strategic goals and fostering a culture of shared success.

- Supported integration efforts between Blackboard and Canvas LMS systems and upstream/downstream applications, collaborating with cross-functional teams to ensure smooth data flow, system interoperability, and enhanced user experience. Assisted in troubleshooting, optimizing processes, and improving learning outcomes for students and faculty.

- Co-created and led multiple communities and initiatives within ASU, driving cross-departmental collaboration and fostering environments that prioritize inclusivity and ethical standards. Co-managed the Giving Back program, successfully forming strategic partnerships with organizations such as Pitchfork Pantry, Swette Center for Sustainable Food Systems, and ASU Health, while organizing impactful fundraising events to support community well-being

- Created the Responsible Innovation Guild working group to further human-centered design.

Quality Assurance Manager, University Technology Office (8/2011-4/2015)

- Created and managed the QA department, establishing testing protocols and overseeing the quality of enterprise systems.

- Played a key role in managing processes surrounding system upgrades, ensuring that platforms like PeopleSoft met rigorous performance and reliability standards.

McKesson Corporation, Gilbert, AZ
Product Manager III / Senior Quality Assurance Analyst (1/2004-4/2008)

- Revitalized a legacy product, resulting in a 50% increase in annual sales, growing from $7 million to $11 million within 18 months through strategic enhancements and targeted customer engagement.

- Progressed and invigorated processes within the Quality Assurance department, defining scope, methods, and resource needs to ensure product excellence.

- Managed the full product lifecycle, coordinating cross-departmental teams to deliver high-quality products that met market demands.

Special Recognitions

Lifetime Achievement Award for LGBTQ Community Work (ECHO magazine, 2019):
Recognized for significant contributions to the LGBTQ community through advocacy, leadership, and impactful projects.

Power Skills:

Core competencies that have driven my success across multiple roles include

- **Responsible and Principled Innovation**: Mastery in implementing ethical, sustainable, and socially responsible innovation strategies.

- **Product Management and Strategic Planning**: Expertise in managing product lifecycles, developing comprehensive roadmaps, and executing strategic initiatives that drive growth and efficiency.

- **Strategic Partnership Development**: Proven success in forging and nurturing partnerships that align with organizational objectives and catalyze mutual success.

- **Cross-functional Leadership and Team Building**: Skilled in leading diverse teams, fostering collaboration, and cultivating an inclusive work environment that drives performance.

- **Research and Data-Driven Decision Making**: Proficient in qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, leveraging data to inform strategic decision-making.

- **Storytelling and Communication**: Strong ability to craft compelling narratives that communicate complex ideas and engage stakeholders at all levels.

- **Empathy and Inclusive Leadership**: Committed to leading with empathy, fostering inclusivity, and building team cohesion through respect and understanding.

Education

- Master of Science in Information Management, Arizona State University, 2023
- Master of Arts in Sociology, Arizona State University, 2022
- Master of Interdisciplinary Studies, Arizona State University, 2019
- Environmental Humanities Certificate, Arizona State University, 2014
- Master of Liberal Studies: Science, Creative Nonfiction, Arizona State University, 2012
- Bachelor of Arts in English, Sam Houston State University, 2012
- Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, Arizona State University, 2011

Certifications

- ITIL Foundations v.4 Certified
- Scrum Product Owner Certified
- Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt

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