THE DEPT. OF COMPUTER SCIENCE PRESENTS: **REUBEN PETER PAUL**

Professional Programmer: Reflections of an 'Early' Millennial

Abstract:

Making a career in computer science today is the goal of many teens learning to program, starting from home with online tutorials. I have travelled this journey and am keen to share what I haved learned along the way, which is more than just how to program algorithms. Finding a job, keeping it, or transitioning to another opportunity requires skills not learnedt during a Computer Science degree program. Sophisticated AI agents now screen resumes with criteria unknown to applicants, lifelong learning is now essential to thriving in the digital age. Understanding and working well in a diverse team of predominantly introverts is a key to thriving in fast paced enterprises. Many questions remain; does it make sense to get a graduate degree in CS, when will it pay divedends, are microcreditials and certificates better, what is the frontier topic that will become the new must have expertise?

Over 15 years I have navigated these challenges moving incrementally towards my current job position with a Silicon Valley company (working on applied AI, Networking, Edge Computing, Green Computing, Distributed Computing) all without having to relocate and leave New Brunswick. Challenging but not impossible! Mentoring matters, as does turning every stone to understand the opportunities and the changing ICT landscape today. Join me to discuss navingating a career in CS starting from New Brunswick.

Speaker Bio:

Reuben Peter-Paul is a Principal Software Engineer at Stem Inc, a Silicon Valley company that is pioneering "an intelligent approach to energy management and technology services." He has an extensive background in Computer Science, software engineering and machine learning. His background also includes a Master's thesis in pattern recognition and unconventional computing (UNB) and more than 15 years as a professional programmer.

He specializes in implementing microservices, software systems, protocols and internet applications for Distributed Energy Resources (DERs), Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) and Robotics. He has first rate functional and object-oriented programming skills in Java and Python.

Career Highlight:

Returning to Siemens as a Software Architect in 2018 and business travel to the US, India, Italy, and Germany.

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