## Ruby on Rails Applications

During my summer internship at Kennedy Space Center, I built web applications using Ruby on Rails. Ruby on Rails is an open source web application framework for the Ruby programming language. The first application I built (illustration 1) was a web application to manage and authenticate other applications. One of the main requirements for this application was a single sign-on service. This allowed authentication to be built in one location and be implemented in many different applications. For example, users would be able to login using their existing credentials, and be able to access other NASA applications without authenticating again. The second application I worked on (illustration 2) was an internal qualification plan app. Previously, the viewing of employee qualifications was managed through excel spreadsheets. I built a database driven application to streamline the process of managing qualifications. Employees would be able to login securely to view, edit and update their personal qualifications.
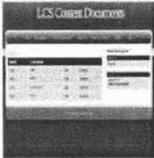
My first Internship at KSC was during the spring 2011 semester. One of my close friends and colleagues, Katelynn Booth, originally motivated me to apply. She interned with the education directorate during the summer 2008 semester. Katelynn would tell me extraordinary stories of the experiences she had with NASA which inspired me to go online and apply. Since this summer was not my first time here as an intern, I was familiar with the process. I also had the same mentor and office as before. Even though this was a continuation from spring, I learned a lot and worked on different projects.

Working at NASA for close to 6 months has moved my career plans and goals drastically. When I first started college, I entered as a Computer Engineer. Just before my experiences here, I switched my major to Electrical Engineering in an attempt to leave programming behind me for good. Little did I know, I was offered an internship a few weeks later programming in Ruby on Rails. Once I arrived, I was very intimidated, but after a few weeks of successful programming, I began to love it. It may be very specific to the language I'm programming in, but I'm rethinking where I want to go with my career.

As this internship finishes, I'm hoping to present my internal qualifications application to the head of NASA Engineering, section C (NE-C). My mentor and I are planning to put together a presentation for the last week of my internship. If successful, this application will be used by NE-C managers to keep track of the qualifications of each employee in our department. I personally believe through my experience, it's really important to do what you really enjoy. Working full-time at a job that's not enjoyable, even if you're getting paid a lot, can be miserable. Find something you have a passion for and pursue it. If you choose the job you love, you don't have to work a single day in your life.

NASA **NE-C Applications**

Logout

Welcome
jhochsta@NDC.NASA.GOV

Dashboard
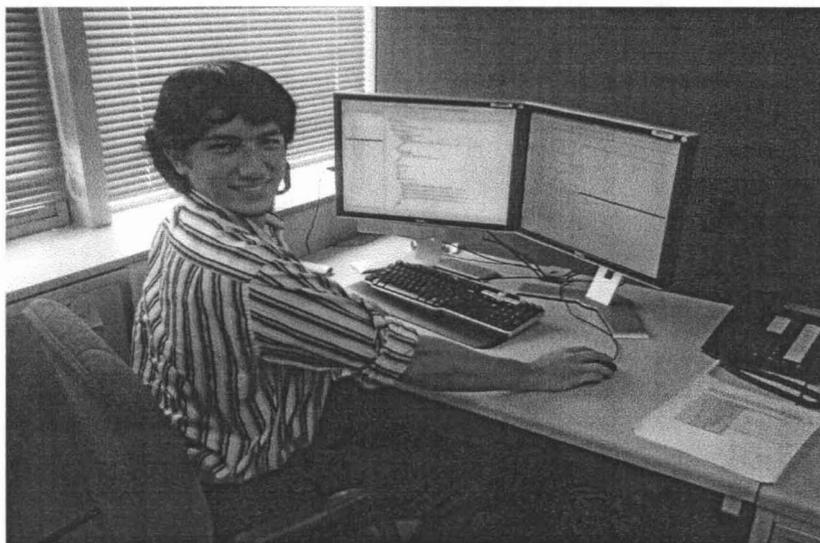
Listing Applications

	Name	Description			Status
LCS Content Documents	Content Document		Edit	Destroy	
	Qualifications		Edit	Destroy	

▸ New App

Illustration 1: NE-C Applications

NASA **Qualifications**

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Welcome
adam@test.com

Dashboard   Users   Qualification Levels

Listing Qualifications

User	Title	Level	Edit	Destroy
NCO	Operations, Support Software Engineering and Computer Systems Administration	Entry	✓	✕
NCS	System Software Engineering and Integration, and Application Software Services	Entry	✓	✕
C1	Engineering Process	Junior	✓	✕
C2	Information Security	None	✓	✕
H1	Computer Hardware Engineering - Set Design	None	✓	✕
H2	Computer Hardware Engineering - Networks	None	✓	✕
H3	Computer Hardware Engineering - Platforms	None	✓	✕
A1	Application Software Engineering	None	✓	✕
A2	Simulation Software Engineering	None	✓	✕
S1	System Software Engineering	None	✓	✕
S2	Application Software Services	None	✓	✕
S3	System Software Integration	None	✓	✕
O1	Operations Engineering	Senior	✓	✕
O2	Support Software Engineering	None	✓	✕
O3	Computer Systems Administration	None	✓	✕
NCH	Computer Hardware Engineering	None	✓	✕

Illustration 2: Qualifications Plan