

Gandhi Samaj of Chicago

Youth Career Planning Seminar

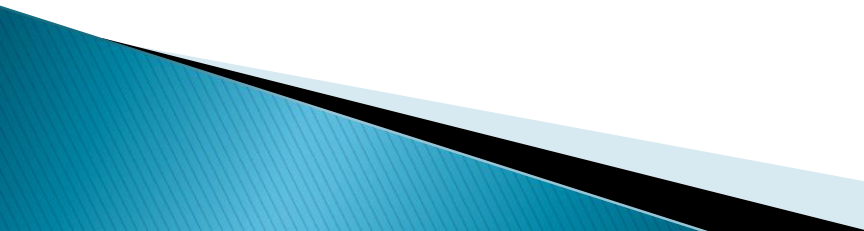
Dennis Gandhi
Solution Architecture



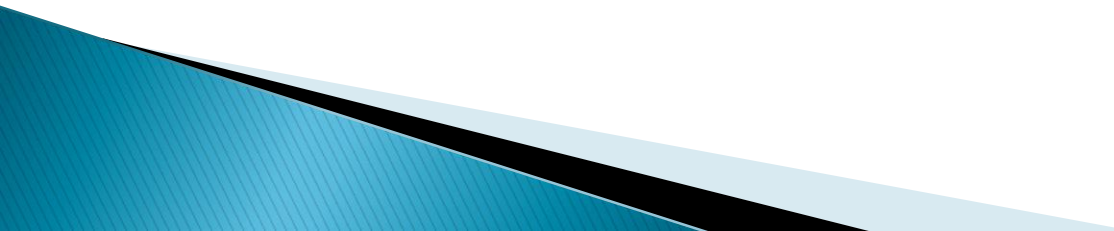
Educational Background

- ▶ Bachelors in Computer Science and Mathematics
- ▶ Professional Background
 - Manager of Solution Architecture – Current Position
 - Solution Architect @ Sears
 - Development Lead @ Catamaran
 - Developer @ Walgreens
 - Quality Assurance Tester @ Walgreens

General Requirements

- ▶ Admission requirement
 - University of Illinois – Urbana/Champaign
 - ACT Score : 31
 - SAT Score: 1400
 - High School Rank : 93–99 %
 - ▶ Bachelors degree (4 years) – Computer Science or Computer related degree.
 - ▶ Experience with a variety of software and systems are a must.
 - ▶ Engineers are expected to continue to educate themselves in the latest technology.
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Personal Interests

- ▶ Passion for automation, design, problem solving
 - ▶ Passion for learning new technologies
 - ▶ Passion to creating new “apps”
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Specialties

- ▶ Java Track – 21% Market Share
 - Invented in 1995 – Write Once, Run Anywhere
 - Platform independent
 - Architectural-neutral
 - Portable
- ▶ Microsoft C#,ASP dot-net Track – 4% Market Share
- ▶ Other Languages
 - C/C++ (Google)
 - Perl/Python
 - PHP – 10% market share (Facebook)
 - ETL – in Big Demand
- ▶ Mobile
 - IOS (Market share in US: 32%; World: 15%)
 - Android (Market share in US: 62%; World: 80%)
 - Microsoft – lets not talk about it.
- ▶ Emerging Technologies
 - Hadoop/BigData

Job Description

▶ Solution Management

- Facilitate issue identification and resolution with the various teams including business users, infrastructure, Data base Architecture and Server administration teams.
- Facilitate creation, submission and approval of the development estimation with duration and cost for various strategic planned and unplanned projects


▶ Technical Leadership

- Recommend solution patterns and pilot implementations offering fitting applications for specific business requirements.
- Understand the IT roadmap and provide solutions that align with organization's IT vision.
- Provide leadership and technical expertise in key IT migrations such as, database upgrade, application platform upgrade etc. with minimal impact to business operations.
- Analyze and prioritize issues reported by business users for faster resolutions and provide solutions to avoid recurrence.
- Mentor graduates and fresh hires (at on-site and offshore), and provide training on key business domains and application frameworks.
- Coordinate with offshore delivery teams for all development efforts
- Participate in business / technical architecture meetings

▶ Quality and Continuous Improvement

- Design, plan, drive and Implement 'continuous improvement' methods
- Ensure adherence to quality standards.
- Define automation around build and release process.
- Define version control strategy for applications.
- Streamline quality control measures around various aspects of software development life cycle.

Work Environment

- ▶ Relaxed work environment
 - ▶ Option to work remotely based on company policy
 - ▶ Work as team with individual tasks
 - ▶ Core hours are 9am – 3pm with flexible start and end time.
 - ▶ At times demanding – If you are the SME(Subject Matter Expert) – you will get called upon when there are issues.
 - ▶ Depending on the criticality of the system, you will be called in to work in hour of need including weekends and nights.
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Work Environment

▶ My Work Day

- Get to between 8am to 9am
- Check work email
- Go to team room to check on status on all the ongoing projects
- Give my time to Development Leads and Developers to ask any questions
- Meet with the team to plan out
 - current and next release,
 - Code deployments
 - Future Projects that team needs to work on
- Engage with Architecture Team to develop on solutions for any ongoing project
- Give status to Upper Management/Business Owners of current projects and future projects

Career Outlook

▶ Computer Science

- Starting salary: \$60,000 +
- Mid-career salary: \$102,000 +
- Annual online job postings: 3,078,624 +
- Projected 10-year job growth: 36.5% +

Advice / Recommendations

- ▶ Talk about why you like the profession and any word of advice for budding professionals
 - ▶ Recommendations about schools, planning, tests, etc.
 - ▶ Certifications
 - PMP – Project Management
 - Agile/Scrum
 - Your Niche Technology
 - For me – Enterprise Architect Certification
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