

Dana Bullister

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EDUCATION

PhD, Interdisciplinary Design and Media 2022-Present

Northeastern University (Boston, MA)

- Pursuing research at the intersection of public policy, collective intelligence, information design, and systems theory to explore novel approaches to more responsive governance

MS, Information Design and Data Visualization *GPA 4.0/4.0, summa cum laude* 2020-2021

Northeastern University (Boston, MA)

- Accepted by merit scholarship; led research in co-designing a civic data dashboard
- Courses included visualization technologies; information design studio; information design theory

BA, Computer Science; BA, Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences (foc. Psychology) *cum laude* 2008-2012

Wellesley College (Wellesley, MA)

- Courses included computer graphics; computer vision; research methods; statistics
- Transferred from Brown University (Providence, RI), where took additional courses in computer science

Other Courses and Certificates 2014-2020

- MITx MicroMasters Degree in Data, Economics, and Development Policy ([certificate](#), Sept 2020)
 - Courses included data analysis for social scientists, designing and running randomized evaluations, microeconomics, foundations of development policy; advanced development economics
- MIT: Why Can't We All Just Get Along? (Auditor, Feb-May 2018); Coursera: The Data Scientist's Toolbox ([certificate](#), Nov 2014); MITx: Tackling the Challenges of Big Data (Auditor, March, 2014)

EXPERIENCE

City of Cambridge (Cambridge, MA) Candidate for City Council June 2025-Nov 2025

- Ran a campaign to build a more responsive, sustainable, and people-centered community better reflecting its values of diversity, equity, and collaboration: danaforcambridge.com
- Led a team of core campaign staff and volunteers to perform constituent outreach

Northeastern University (Boston, MA) Teaching Assistant Jan 2025-Aug 2025

- Assisted the primary instructor for the course COMM 1112 Public Speaking; graded student presentations; supported in curriculum building; evaluated assignments

Civera (Cambridge, MA) Product Manager June 2024-Nov 2024

- Led all product operations, streamlined and professionalized engineering practices for an organization inventing technologies that enable government transparency and enhance public trust
- Led collaboration with Yale University to build a tool for analyzing split ticket voting behavior
- Implemented user testing associated with customer upgrades to the v3 ElectionStats product

ClearGov (Maynard, MA) Product Manager Nov 2021-March 2022

- Designed data dashboards for informing the citizens of hundreds of local governments across the US
- Defined roadmap, plan sprints, facilitated development within a small remote agile software team
- Led team in building out the Transparency and core data visualization module tools, which facilitate government transparency and citizen inclusion in critical decisions about allocation of tax dollars

ProjectZen.com (Cambridge, MA) Founder, CEO **Jan 2017-Present**

- Founded a SaaS company that provides an [interactive digital tool](#) for agile collaboration
- Designed, conceptualized, and coded the [end-to-end product](#) (JavaScript/Angular, Python/Django, SQL, HTML, CSS, Google Cloud, Firebase)
- Consult for several startups in data science and UI/UX; [present](#) at product and industry conferences

Nectry (Cambridge, MA) Collaborator **Jan 2019-July 2019**

- Designed the product UI for a nascent MIT spin-off developing a [visual interface for making dynamic web apps](#); helped conduct B2B user interviews alongside the founding executive team

SolarWinds (Cambridge, MA) Data Scientist, Data Science Program Manager **June 2013-Dec 2016**
(Formerly GFI Software then LogicNow via reorganization and acquisition)

- Designed, managed development of a new data driven visualization and knowledge engine called [LOGICcards](#), which helped generate multi-million dollar business value and company acquisition
 - Finalist for two national and multinational awards: [Analytics Product of the Year 2016](#) (UK Cloud Awards) and [Big Data, IoT or Analytics Solution of the Year 2016](#) (IT Europa Excellence Awards)
- Received the [CompTIA ChannelChanger Award](#) for innovation
- Created web-based [interactive data visualizations](#) using D3.js, R, Python, and SQL to understand and communicate complex data sets to inform strategy; [presented](#) at industry conferences

Boston Children's Hospital (Boston, MA) Research Assistant II **June 2012-June 2013**
Labs of Cognitive Neuroscience

- Analyzed, visualized physiological data sets using Python, MATLAB, SPSS for research on visual cognition

AWARDS

- [Emerging Graduate Leader Award](#), Graduate Leadership Institute (April 2024)
- [Analytics Product of the Year Finalist](#), (alongside Amazon ML), UK Cloud Awards (June 2016)
- [Big Data, IoT or Analytics Solution of the Year Finalist](#), IT Europa Awards (June 2016)
- [CompTIA ChannelChanger Award](#), CompTIA Awards (June 2016)
- Recognized among highest achieving employees at LogicNow (later acquired by SolarWinds) (March 2015)
- Girl Scouts Gold Award (equiv. to Boy Scouts Eagle Award) (Oct 2008)

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- Metaxas, P. "[Network manipulation \(with application to political issues\).](#)" Interdisciplinary Workshop on Information and Decision in Social Networks, MIT. (Contributor) Presented findings at the New England Undergraduate Computing Symposium, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, April 21, 2012.
- Geiser, E. & Shattuck-Hufnagel, S. (2011). "[Temporal regularity in speech perception - is regularity beneficial or deleterious?](#)" *PubMed*. (Contributor) Presented findings at the 4th annual meeting of the Illinois Language and Linguistics Society, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana and Champaign, IL, April 13-15, 2012. Also presented at the Harvard Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium, Harvard University, April 14-15, 2012.

SKILLS

- Expertise in information design, data visualization principles and practices
- Proficiency across a variety of different visualization and programming languages/tools: D3.js, R, Python, SQL, HTML, CSS, jQuery, Angular, TypeScript, Google Cloud
- Product management/design (5+ years), Programming (6+ years)
- Spanish (professional working proficiency)

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Boston Children's Hospital (Boston, MA) Research Collaborator Jan 2013-June 2013
Informatics Program

- Collaborated on a project visualizing public sentiment regarding the HPV vaccine using data from Twitter
- Categorized media for a linguistic classifier script subsequently used to classify by sentiment valence using natural language processing

Institute for Research in Cognitive Science (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) Attendee June 2012
University of Pennsylvania

- Accepted after rigorous application into the 14th Annual Undergraduate Summer Workshop, a 2-week program focused on cutting edge data and academic research techniques

Gabrieli Lab, MIT (Cambridge, MA) Research Assistant Jan 2011-Sept 2011

- Analyzed, visualized data using Python for research on language learning
- Contributed to the [resulting peer-reviewed publication](#), presented findings at two academic conferences

Kanwisher Lab, MIT (Cambridge, MA) Research Assistant Jan-May 2011

- Assisted in research investigating a possible brain region specific to perceiving music
- Programmed scripts for presenting auditory stimuli using MATLAB
- Assisted in fMRI scanning study subjects, evaluating results

Computer Science Dept., Wellesley College (Wellesley, MA) Research Assistant Jan 2011-Mar 2011

- Scraped, mined, analyzed, visualized search engine data using Python, Excel for a project investigating how online hacking may have influenced voting behavior in the 2008 US Congressional Elections
- Contributed to the [resulting paper](#) on politically-motivated network manipulation, presented findings

Museum of Science Boston (Boston, MA) Living Laboratory Intern Jun-Aug 2010

- Assisted visiting cognitive science and psychology researchers with carrying out studies in the museum
- Wrote a literature review of selected cognition research for museum archives
- Educated the public in the science behind child cognition

Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston, MA) Research Assistant May 2010-Aug 2010

- Cleaned data for a research study on depression diagnosis among minority populations

VOLUNTEER, LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Various Social Impact Organizations (Cambridge and Boston, MA) Volunteer Jan 2017-Present

- Volunteer intermittently for organizations and events such as the Congressional App Challenge, Girls Who Code, Code for Boston, the Internet Education Foundation, the New England Undergraduate Computing Symposium, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Northeastern's IoT Innovation Lab, ProductCamp Boston, and General Assembly

Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House (Cambridge, MA) Project Director Jan 2008-Feb 2008

- Designed and launched a community service project for educating children in technical proficiency
- Created a class curriculum, trained teachers in implementation; donated this to the center
- Awarded Girl Scouts Gold Award for final project and product