

Sjors Provoost

e-mail: sjors@sprovoost.nl

blog : <http://www.sprovoost.nl/>

Twitter: @provoost

Education, skills and recent projects:

Utrecht University 2005 - 2008

Master of Science program: Sustainable Development

I developed a data visualization website for duck migration as part of my master thesis: <http://ducks.sprovoost.nl/> (supervisor Marcel Klaassen, Netherlands Institute of Ecology)

Utrecht University 2000 - 2005

Bachelor Physics & Astronomy

Also took courses in biology, history, philosophy and even cultural anthropology. Research project at Physics of Man (supervisor Raymond van Ee)

Computer skills:

- The usual Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Latex and wikis.
- Varying programming experience in Ruby on Rails, Python (Django and Google App Engine), PHP, C, Matlab, Mathematica, Excel and other languages, for work, study, hobby and voluntary work use;
- Basic knowledge of databases (MySQL, Postgres);
- Basic experience in writing tests.
- Rudimentary knowledge of HTML, CSS and Javascript and several other technologies
- Experience with Linux, home use and software development

Recent projects:

- <http://simplesponsorship.com/> (connects sponsors with the people who need them, I built the backend)
- <http://2vouch.com/> I built a widget, currently finishing another project
- <http://jobtorrent.org/> (my own idea, a place where you can pay people to fix bugs or get paid for fixing bugs.)
- <http://pale-blue-dot.sprovoost.nl/> Facilitates adopting a star
- Altitude Profile for cycle routes:
http://wiki.openstreetmap.org/index.php/Route_altitude_profiles_SRTM (may not be live at the moment)

Work experience:

Melbourne, Australia: Google Summer of Code 2008 at OpenStreetMap, Developer at 2vouch and SimpleSponsorship and other activities May 2008 – March 2009

While in Melbourne, I worked on the *recent projects* mentioned above. In addition, I was an active member of the local startup community, Silicon Beach. The highlight of that was participating in Startup Camp, where we built a “company” from scratch in two days with complete strangers:

<http://www.neverreadpassively.com/2008/10/plucky-reflections-on-startup-camp.html>

I was also involved in organizing the first TEDx:

http://www.anecdote.com.au/archives/2009/01/a_fun_day_at_te.html

Utrecht University : several part time teachers assistant jobs 2001 – 2005

Work consists of assisting first year students in their physics exercises, focus on them really understanding it. Also scoring exams. Courses:

- *Mathematica* (Wolfram Research mathematical software, used for data analysis);
- *Measurements in Physics* : Data processing, statistics;
- *Physics for biology students (explaining scaling laws, etc)*

Voluntary work:

Politeas

Prešov (Slovakia)

11-2006 – 06-2007

Full time

Politeas is a young NGO that works with local youth in the poorest region of Slovakia. My work consisted of assignments and my own initiatives. I have assisted in a multilateral youth exchange and also did the (massive) paperwork to apply for subsidies. I've also studied problems related to the Roma population. My work was sponsored by the European Youth in Action program.

***Federation of Student Corporations Utrecht
in Utrecht***

02-2005 – 02-2006

Part time, "CEO"

Weekly discussion with representatives of six student corporations, negotiations with the University, improving historical and practical knowledge in the present generation of volunteers as well as our successors, complete rewrite of the bylaws.

Student Corporation Biton, board Utrecht

09-2002 – 09-2003

Full time

Biton has about 300 members, most of whom are active in committees. I took care of part of the finances and the long term financial strategy. E.g. I investigated the financial (im)possibility of a \$200.000 expansion within our building. I also did several bar shifts a week.

Hobbies and general information:

I enjoy photography and travel, usually in combination. I usually travel alone, on a budget and meet interesting people along the way. Destinations so far: all over Europe, USA, Japan, Mexico, Australia and a few cities in South East Asia. Recently I've developed a preference for "functional" travel (as opposed to plain backpacking), which is why I attended several networking events while on holiday in the Bay Area and Seattle and why I lived and worked in Melbourne, Australia.

I like to watch movies and some action and science fiction series. My musical taste varies between German happy hardcore, Gothic metal and melodramatic Dutch music. I like to read books and especially blogs on interesting topics varying from productivity, the meaning of life, religion, history, economy, politics and useful web technology. I also love coming up with ideas and the challenge of getting them to the right person, even if it's a complete stranger.