

Anne Stevens

UX | Data Viz | Creative technology

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Profile

Lead UX and Data Visualization Designer for IBM Watson Analytics. Watson Analytics is a self service, cloud based visual analytics platform that combines advanced analytics and data visualization for the enterprise user and the citizen analyst.

I have a proven track record of multidisciplinary design applied to real world problems (health care analytics, electronic waste, sustainability, affordable housing). I offer the latest in digital media and design thinking, combined with two years' UX experience at IBM and over ten years' private practice as a professional architect.

My designs have won national design competitions, been showcased on CBC's *The Nature of Things*, and published in peer-reviewed journals.

Career snapshot

Prior to IBM, I taught data visualization and UX design at OCADu and York University. Additionally, I developed first hand expertise in data visualization, UX / IxD, design for mobile, screen and non-screen user interfaces, and design research as a key member of OCAD University's Visual Analytics Lab.

A passionate life long learner, I pursued my interests in digital technology by completing a Master of Design in Digital Futures. The Digital Futures program combines a breadth of knowledge in digital technology, innovation and user centered design methods, with in-depth individualized research and project building.

Conducted first hand field research into India's mobile phone and electronic waste economies, with a focus on the informal economy and issues of sustainability.

Established my own professional architectural practice and built it from a start up to an award winning design firm with a notable client list and a diverse body of work. Was responsible for all aspects of design, production, business and project management, and client communication.

Awards, peer acknowledgements

Digital Futures Graduate Chair's Award, for Master's thesis.

Grand Prize, *Archetype for the Living City* Competition, a national architectural design competition.

Numerous peer reviewed publications and exhibitions.

Education

Master of Design, Digital Futures, OCAD University.

Master's thesis: *New Uses for Old Phones: Upcycling the Rotary Dial Phone in the Age of the Smartphone*. It addressed the problem of increasingly rapid mobile phone obsolescence with two interactive projects that repurposed so-called obsolete rotary dial phones, combining them with other available technologies and networks, to recreate smartphone functionality.

LEED Accredited Professional certification

Ontario Association of Architects licensing requirements

Diploma in Architecture, Architectural Association School of Architecture, London, England (Professional Architecture degree)

Bachelor of Arts (Hons), Humanities, York University, Toronto

What I do

Data visualization ▪ UX ▪ Collaboration ▪ Research
Human centered design ▪ Strategic foresight and Innovation
Critical design ▪ Outside the box creativity ▪ Prototyping
Project management ▪ Excellent client facing communication

Tools and software

Adobe Creative Suite ▪ HTML ▪ CSS ▪ Axure ▪ Arduino
Processing ▪ Ketai ▪ Tableau ▪ R ▪ Google Refine
XPath ▪ AutoCad ▪ SketchUp ▪ Laser cutting, soldering,
woodworking and construction tools ▪ Drawing ▪ and a
quick study at the rest

Community activities

TorCHI ▪ IxDA ▪ Urban Digital ▪ Organizer, *talkTalk*: the
guest lecture series of the Digital Futures Initiative ▪ Trail
Captain, Bruce Trail Association ▪ Collective Member, Pink
Turf Soccer League ▪ Secretary/Treasurer, BNI Networkers.
com ▪ Build Committee, Site Supervisor, Habitat for Human-
ity, Toronto

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Key results and deliverables

Lead UX Designer 2015 to the present
Watson Analytics, IBM Canada, Toronto

Watson Analytics is a self service, cloud based visual analytics platform that combines advanced analytics and data visualization for the enterprise user and the citizen analyst.

It is a collaborative design thinking and agile project delivery environment.

UX design, content development 2014 to 2015
Consulting

Helped Dundas Data Visualization align website design and user experience to values of new product launch and increase website engagement. Scope included visual design, wireframing and architecture.

Developed a series of data visualization best practice articles for Dundas Data Visualization.

Instructor 2013
OCAD University and York University, Toronto

Developed full curriculum for Introduction to Visual Analytics course, including lectures, hands-on workshops, ice-breaker exercises, slides, and teaching blog (OCAD).

Instructor for Interaction Design course for first year Bachelor of Design students (York).

Design and Development, Visual Analytics 2012 to 2014
Mobile Platforms, UX / IxD

Visual Analytics Lab, OCAD University, Toronto

Designed networked, tablet-based visual analytics tools for caregivers in long term healthcare.

Designed screen- and non-screen-based data visualizations and interfaces for broadcast media data.

Conducted participatory and field research with Industry Partner, CAIS Hospital, in Lins Brazil.

Developed personas and scenarios, visualization design, UI, user-flow diagrams, architecture and low- to medium fidelity prototypes.

Conducted user testing and evaluation.

Worked collaboratively in five to ten person team, as well as with three university partners. Reported directly to the President of the university.

Was lead writer for peer-reviewed paper published by IEEE-Vis, 2014.

Field research & advocacy 2012
Digital Empowerment Foundation, Delhi, India

DEF's mission is to use information and communication technologies to empower people *on the edge of information* in India and south Asia.

Conducted ethnographic field research into India's informal mobile phone and electronic waste economies.

Interviewed NGOs, researchers, government officials. Compiled results into 70 page illustrated report.

Created case studies re. social media for empowerment.

Principal architect and Owner 1998 to 2012
FORT architect inc., Toronto

Grand Prize winner, Archetype Sustainable Homes Competition, a national competition to design the greenest, most sustainable homes in the country. Two forward looking prototypes were built at the Kortright Centre in Vaughan, Ontario.

Launched my own professional architectural practice and built a diverse client list of household names: Gucci, Club Monaco, University of Toronto, Schulich School of Business, Toronto Regional Conservation Authority.

Developed a first class reputation for leading edge sustainable design, sensitive heritage building renovations, commercial and residential projects and, yes, treeforts.

Fastidious coordination of engineering and construction minimized costs and delays of time sensitive projects.

Responsible for all aspects of business management, supervision, project management, PR, networking and contract administration.

Build Committee member, architect, construction site supervisor, volunteer 1995 to 2001

Habitat for Humanity, Toronto

HfH *blitz* builds affordable houses with volunteer labour in as little as seven days. I provided the detailed proactive coordination and full-time construction site supervision required for a number of successful *blitz*s.

Solid references validate results

Dr. Sara Diamond, President, OCAD University

Patricio Davila, Associate Professor, OCAD University

Dr. Paula Gardner, Associate Professor, OCAD University

Osama Manzar, Founder, Digital Empowerment Foundation

Alex Waters, Toronto Regional Conservation Authority

Contact information is available upon request.