

# Oksana Cyrwus

Director of Product at Blenderbox

Software Design & Engineering | UX/UI

[CSPO®](#) | [PSPO](#) | [PSM](#) | [Acquia Certified Grand Master - Drupal 8](#)



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[oksanac.com](#); [stack exchange](#); [drupal.org](#); [github](#); [linkedin](#)

## SUMMARY of QUALIFICATIONS

Expert competence in designing / engineering enterprise systems with a passion for building and leading creative teams within dynamic agency environments

A refined aptitude in the design / development of scalable technical solutions that fulfill business layer objectives / dynamic needs of users

Demonstrated record of excellence in strategic planning / implementation of large scale system builds and phased solutions

## AREAS of EXPERTISE

**Digital Strategy:** Data Modeling, Information Architecture, Decoupled, SOA, CX/UX, DX, Content Strategy, Conversion Optimization, Change Mgmt

**Design:** UX / UI Strategy, Visual Design & Communication, Branding, Marketing / sales collateral, Premium Responsive

**Team Leadership/Development:** Visionary leader and mentor with strong competence in modeling / managing technical and creative teams

**Drupal 8, 7 CMS:** Full-Spectrum Expertise, Acquia Certified Grand Master - Drupal 8

**Business Intelligence:** OKR / KPI Strategy, Custom BI Dashboards, Data Analytics

## SELECT PROJECTS

### **VA.GOV Decoupled Content Management System - 2020-2021**

Drupal 8 / Decoupled Architecture / Modern CI/CD / Human Centered Design

Product Manager / Architect for the VA.GOV VFS-CMS Core Application Team.

CMS product vision, strategy and roadmaps. Building and scaling decoupled content management system that supports hundreds of VA.gov content authors and multiple veteran-facing products using human centered design process in an Agile ecosystem.

## **Embedded BI and Analytics for medical research NPO - 2020**

*React / D3 / Data Visualization / Interactive Dashboard*

Product Owner and engineer for in-app interactive BI dashboard built using React and D3.js.

Dashboard with advanced data visualization improved operational efficiency by offering multiple perspectives into the data set. React component state and lifecycle methods were used for visualization updates based on applied filters / options. Interactive features allow to drill down into the data and inspect key datapoints. Configurable visuals enhance absorption and analysis of critical metrics.

## **API Interface & Advanced SOLR Search tools for Drupal 8 - 2019**

*API Development / Apache SOLR / Drupal 8*

Architect & Lead Search Specialist for data migration and redesign project for federal government agency. Source data storage is a proprietary combination of data entry tools where data is written to SOLR instance. API Interface accepts various types of content sent from proprietary internal SOLR instance, validates and stores it as Content and Media entities in Drupal 8 that are inter-connected via entity references.

7+ advanced search tools w/ custom facets provide users an ability to search and granularly filter site content as well as content of file attachments available for download.

Scheduled to launch Q2 2020.

## **App prototype using ReactJS, Redux, ArcGIS - 2019**

*UX/UI Strategy & Design / Rapid Prototyping / ReactJS / Redux / ArcGIS*

UX Architect and Project Manager for rapid prototype of mobile app that distributes data coordinating resource logistics between first responders and municipal authorities. Iterative discovery interviews with stakeholders and dedicated end-user group were conducted to map key-user journeys. App prototype was built using Create ArcGIS App as a quick starter. Technologies used: React JS, React component kit for the ArcGIS API for JavaScript, Redux. Several rounds of usability testing enabled rapid iteration on features and UI. Delivered prototype used to raise stakeholder interest and resources for a full-featured desktop and mobile apps to be built with ReactJS and React Native.

## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

**April 2021 - Current** - Blenderbox, Director of Product

**March 2020 – April 2021** - Agile Six Applications

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Product Manager / Architect (08/20 - 04/21)

- guide and support the VA Digital Experience Product Office in formulating the VA.gov Content Management System product vision and strategy
- create effective and actionable product roadmaps to build and scale human-centered applications for Veteran and author-facing applications
- collaborate towards defining technical product architecture by balancing short, mid and long-term objectives
- foster a cross-functional collaborative process within an expert team of content strategists, designers, engineers and researchers
- empower the team with timely information to support independent decision making and lean delivery

Senior Software Engineer (03/20 - 07/20)

- collaborate towards design / evolution of existing content model and governance practices
- provide subject matter expertise to formulate product roadmap and outline strategy for technical product deliverables
- contribute towards formal user research, discovery, synthesis
- collaborate towards technical debt remediation and feature refactoring coordinated within evolving information architecture and designs
- product management for VA Digital Experience Product Office “Resources and support” initiative and several VFS-CMS team initiatives

**February 2017 – April 2021** - Technical Consultant at Forel Group

**2013 – April 2021**- Software Solutions Architect, Independent Consultant

**October 2018 – May 2019** - Senior Architect at Savas Labs

- Maintained and improved previously established standards
- Strategy and Technical lead providing solutions that align client value with company gains
- 80% of projects were delivered early and under budget with 10-20% remaining surplus, resulting in outstanding client satisfaction and retention
- Created strategic roadmaps that align client value with company profitability
- Assisted in pre-sales and sales efforts, developed estimates and delivery commitments
- Pre-screened FT and contractor candidates. Facilitated short/long-term resource planning efforts
- Supported and mentored teammates in skill development and project delivery

**July 2016 – October 2018** - Solutions / UX Architect at Savas Labs

- Served as strategic / technical lead on projects providing solutions that align client value with company gains
- Coordinated open source contribution opportunities for the team
- Led adoption of emerging technology and innovative methods of software design & development
- Assisted in pre-sales and sales efforts, developed estimates and delivery commitments
- Pre-screened FT and contractor candidates. Facilitated short / long-term resource planning efforts
- Supported and mentored teammates in skill development and project delivery
- Dramatically improved company brand identity and internal / client-facing company processes
- Instituted and streamlined a process of technical specification and scope definition
- Refined and coordinated discovery workshops
- Introduced retrospectives
- Formalized project kick-off guidelines and project report template
- Developed company marketing collateral, crafted contract and proposal templates
- Initiated professional development program resulting in Acquia Certifications across the team
- Expanded company service offerings to include: Digital Strategy, Discovery Workshops, UX / UI, Visual & Web Design, SEO / Analytics, Heuristic Audits and more

**2013 – January 2017** - Technical Director at Digital Assets Team

- Pre-sales and sales assistance
- Assembled and managed remote teams
- Conducted project discovery workshops / planning
- Served as Product Owner
- Defined technical direction / managed delivery
- DevOps / infrastructure

**2008 - 2012** - Software Developer, Independent Contractor

**2008 – 2014** - English Language Instructor

**2006 – 2010** - IT Administrator at Faculty of Mass Media & Communications at International University of Economics and Humanities, Ukraine

## EDUCATION, TRAINING

2007 – 2009 Master’s Degree, Applied Mathematics & Informatics  
International University of Economics and Humanities, Ukraine

2008 – 2010 Specialist Degree, Philology - English Language  
International University of Economics and Humanities, Ukraine

2016 Project Management Training Indiana University

2020 Certified Scrum Product Owner® (CSPO®)

<http://bcert.me/stwmkcaar>

## SKILLSET

### Creative

Discovery Workshops  
Information Architecture  
CX / UX Strategy  
Brand Creation / Strategy  
Content Strategy  
Visual Design &  
Communication  
Wireframing & Prototyping  
Premium Responsive  
Adobe Creative Suite  
Color theory  
Typography  
Photography

### BI / Analytics

Business Intelligence  
Dashboards  
Data Analysis  
Conversion Optimization  
Data Visualization  
Tableau / D3 / Highcharts /  
Leaflet  
Google Analytics / GTM  
SEO / SEM  
Email Mktg Automation

## LANGUAGES

### Front-end / UX

UX / UI Design  
Design Systems / Styleguides  
ReactJS / Redux / React  
Native  
GatsbyJS  
Component-driven  
Development  
Performance Optimization  
HTML5 / CSS3 / SASS  
JavaScript / jQuery / AJAX  
Section 508 / WCAG 2.0  
Heuristic Analysis  
Usability

### Operations

Team Leadership  
Team Building / Training /  
Mentoring  
Risk / Change Mgmt  
Product Mgmt  
Project Mgmt  
Account Mgmt  
Pre-sales Consulting  
Agile / Lean / Waterfall  
Atlassian Suite

English (Native proficiency)  
Ukrainian (Native proficiency)  
Russian (Native proficiency)

### Back-end

Drupal CMS 9/8/7/6  
Data modeling  
Decoupled / SOA  
E-commerce  
Third-party Integrations  
API Development  
Cache Layers Architecture  
Custom Search Solutions: SOLR,  
Elastic, Swifttype, Algolia  
Google Maps API, ArcGIS  
PHP / Symfony / SQL / XML /  
SOAP / JSON / GraphQL

### DevOps

Continuous Integration  
Deployment Automation  
Jenkins / Travis  
Acquia / Pantheon / Contegix  
AWS / Azure / Custom Hosting  
Docker / Custom Docker Images  
DrupalVM / LAMP  
Drush / Composer / Bash / Task  
Runners  
Automated Tests / VRT  
E2E / BDD / DDD

*References available upon request*

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