

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with M. Brian Blake

PERSON

Blake, M. Brian, 1971-

Alternative Names: M. Brian Blake;

Life Dates: October 13, 1971-

Place of Birth: Savannah, Georgia, USA

Residence: Philadelphia, PA

Work: Philadelphia, PA

Occupations: Computer Scientist

Biographical Note

Computer scientist and academic administrator M. Brian Blake was born in Savannah, Georgia. He graduated from Benedictine Military Academy in 1989 and then enrolled in the Georgia Institute of Technology where he graduated with his B.S. degree in electrical engineering in 1994. In 1997, Blake earned his M.S. degree in electrical engineering with a minor in software engineering and a graduate certificate in object-oriented analysis and design from Mercer University in Atlanta, Georgia. He went on to earn his Ph.D. degree in information technology and computer science from George Mason University in 2000.

Upon graduation, Blake spent six years in industry working as a software architect, technical lead, and expert developer with companies such as General Electric (GE), Lockheed Martin, General Dynamics, and The MITRE Corporation. Blake joined the department of computer science at Georgetown University in 1999 as an adjunct professor. After being promoted to associate professor in 2005, he became the youngest African American tenured computer science professor. In 2007, Blake was selected to chair Georgetown University's computer science department, making him the first African American appointed to the position. Blake was then brought on at Notre Dame University in 2009 where he served the Associate Dean of Engineering for Research and Graduate Studies, and as professor of computer science and engineering. Blake was also the first African American tenured professor in Notre Dame's College of Engineering. In May of 2012, Blake was named Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Miami. His research interests include

Blake has published more than 150 refereed articles and publications in the area of

software engineering and the integration of Web-based systems. He served as the Associate Editor-in-Chief of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Internet Computing, and Associate Editor of IEEE Transactions on Service Computing. In 2006, he was selected to serve on the National Science Foundation Advisory Board for Computer, Information Science, and Engineering. Blake is also a senior member of the IEEE Computer Society.

In 2007, was honored by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* as “One of 10 Emerging Scholars.” He was the creator and founder of the Web Services Challenge, an initiative that evaluates software engineering techniques in the area of web service composition. As an undergraduate at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Blake was initiated in the ANAK Society and received the J. Erskine Love, Jr. Award. In 2003, *US Black Engineer and Information Technology* magazine and Lockheed Martin recognized him as the “Most Promising Engineer/Scientist in Industry.”

Blake is married to Bridget Blake, a mechanical engineer who earned her M.B.A. from The Johns Hopkins University and now serves as a consultant for The MITRE Corporation. They have two sons: Brendan Blake and Bryce Blake. Brian M. Blake was interviewed by the HistoryMakers on June 3, 2013.

Related Entries

George Mason University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Ph.D.

Mercer University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

MSEE

Georgia Institute of Technology [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Bachelor of Engineering

Benedictine Military School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Shuman Middle School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Eli Whitney Elementary [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Cleared Solutions [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1959 to 1968]

Senior Enterprise Architect

General Electric Company [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 199206 to 199309]

Software Engineer Intern

University of Notre Dame [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1995 to ?]

Professor and Associate Dean

University of Miami [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 20120701 to ?]

Dean and professor

Lockheed Martin [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 199409 to 199809]

Senior Software Engineer

MITRE Corporation [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 199809 to 200701]

Lead Software Engineer

Georgetown University [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1968 to ?]

Professor and Department Chair

George Mason University [MEMBEROf]
[from 20131 to ?]

Engineering Advisory Board Member

Ivy Tech Community College [MEMBEROf]
[from 201010 to 201206]

Information Technology Advisory Board Member

100 Black Men [MEMBEROf]
[from 200809 to ?]

Member