Pete Stergion

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Desktop Engineer and Unit Security Liaison at Cornell University Library, and part-time Tech Lead in Cornell's AI Innovation Hub, with 20 years of enterprise IT across two universities. I build AI tools, agents, and MCP servers using AI coding agents, and maintain open-source MCP projects. My standard for anything I build: supportable, secure, stable, intuitive, tested, and built to best practices.

CORE SKILLS

- **Generative AI and APIs:** Claude Desktop, Claude Code, Cowork · MCP servers (FastMCP, streamable HTTP, n8n) · REST API integration · Claude Skills · LiteLLM gateway administration · RAG (INFO 5940 coursework)
- **Identity and security:** Microsoft Entra, Active Directory · OIDC and JWT token validation (prototypes) · OS credential stores · Tenable vulnerability management · data classification (Cornell Policy 5.10)
- **Cloud and delivery:** Python, PowerShell, Bash · Docker · GitHub Actions CI/CD · SBOM · AWS Bedrock and ECS (planning)
- **Testing and reliability:** acceptance tests, negative controls, pre-launch AI answer tests · circuit breakers, timeouts · cost monitoring
- **Endpoint management:** Jamf Pro, Intune, SCCM, PSADT, Sassafras K2
- **Leadership:** technical lead for a student team, staff onboarding and training, stakeholder requirements, technical documentation

EXPERIENCE

Cornell University

Tech Lead, Cornell AI Innovation Hub

Jan 2026 to Present · Part time alongside the Library IT role · Ithaca, NY

- **AI Intake & Solution Design.** Work with university stakeholders to assess AI use cases, gather requirements, evaluate feasibility, and recommend technical approaches. Technical Lead for a Law Library resource discovery project, defining a Claude Skill-based solution with measurable acceptance criteria and validation controls before development.
- **Enterprise AI Architecture & Governance.** Member of a five-person team supporting Claude Desktop onboarding to Anthropic's Enterprise platform through Cornell's GenAI Premium Service. Collaborate with the AI Hub and central IT to establish technical requirements, deployment restrictions, and security controls aligned with university data risk classifications. Evaluated deployment paths involving Cornell's AI gateway, Amazon Bedrock, and direct Anthropic subscriptions.
- **Claude Desktop Deployment & Integration.** Built the proof of concept, credential management helpers, Windows deployment packages, and macOS Jamf pilot scripts integrating Claude Desktop with Cornell's AI gateway for approved moderate-risk data use. Handed the macOS pilot to central endpoint engineering, who rebuilt it for native Jamf deployment. Created end-user documentation and IT support procedures.
- **MCP & API Integrations.** Developed Cornell's web-search MCP server using n8n and the university's AI gateway. Coordinated gateway registration, validated end-to-end functionality in Claude Desktop, and documented the integration for operational handoff.
- **Reusable Claude Skills & Staff Enablement.** Helped onboard university staff to Claude tools and workflows. Contributed a reusable gateway-usage Skill to the AI Hub's public GitHub repository and developed its Claude Code plugin marketplace to simplify Skill distribution and reuse across teams.
- **AI Workflow Automation & Business Impact.** Co-led an AI solution for Cornell's Office of the Treasurer, developing a Python workflow that matches unidentified payments against three years of financial records using AI-assisted search and analysis. Treasury recovered $100,000 across five payments following the tool's initial recommendations. Incorporated human review, confidence scoring, and backtesting to evaluate accuracy and identify limitations. Optimized model usage for token efficiency.

Desktop Engineer, Cornell University Library

Oct 2023 to Present · Full-time · Ithaca, NY · Hybrid

- **AI for Library IT.** Administer Library IT's access to the LiteLLM gateway: keys, budgets, model access, and per-team chargeback. Lead the Claude Code Library IT pilot and wrote its secure deployment proposal. Deliver AI trainings and presentations for Library staff.
- **Endpoint engineering and automation.** Desktop engineer supporting the Library's desktop support staff: keep endpoints updated and secure, and automate repetitive staff tasks. Unit Security Liaison to Cornell's IT Security Office, remediating Tenable findings. Building itops-mcp, an MCP server for endpoint operations with read connectors for Tenable, Sassafras K2, Jamf, Intune, and MECM, token validation, and approval-gated actions with an audit log.

Desktop Engineer, Central IT · *Aug 2018 to Oct 2023 · Ithaca, NY*

Part of the desktop engineering team that partnered with campus technical service providers (TSPs), providing the framework and support for centrally managed IT tools, Windows updates, and software packaging. Partnered with the IT Security Office on the Secure Connect (Beyond Identity) passwordless rollout, and led the Windows 11 task sequence for campus TSPs.

Buffalo State University

Client Systems Engineer · *Jul 2006 to Jul 2018 · Buffalo, NY*

Campus desktop engineer: software packaging and deployment, Windows updates, OS migrations, and software licensing on SCCM and Jamf.

SELECTED WORK

mcp-unifi (31 stars): MCP server giving agents safe access to network gear, with read-only mode, dry runs, and rollback.

EDUCATION

Medaille University, Bachelor of Business Administration · **Cornell University**: INFO 5940, AI Chatbots, RAG and AI Agents (Fall 2026)