



# THUSHAN AMARASIRIWARDENA

THUSHAN.NET + THUSHAN@THUSHAN.NET + 413.230.4773

Multimedia journalist specializing in interactive graphics,  
online documentary photography and video, design and writing.

## + PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Digital Divide Data | December 2008 - August 2009

Provided technical consulting for a social enterprise with 500 employees in Cambodia and Laos helping disadvantaged people break the cycle of poverty by creating technology related jobs and college scholarships. Created training courses to teach advanced XML topics to local management so they had the skills to meet the needs of digitization projects like Reader's Digest and other magazines. Served as a technical consultant on the company's solutions team, developing new and more efficient project workflow models. Helped deploy corporate intranet to get DDD's four offices communicating more effectively. Re-branded DDD's identity with new print and web designs, a refreshed logo and corporate photography. Developed new company website from design, photography and code: <http://digitaldividedata.org/>

*Consultant / Capacity Builder*

### LongJaunt | 2008

Traveled around the world through 30 countries while producing an intimately documented multimedia blog for The Boston Globe's online travel section. More than 200 daily stories photographed and written on the road. From code to photos: developed custom CMS from the ground up to maintain and write for the site while internet connections were bad or non-existent. Conceptualized, pitched and secured financing for project before launch. Managed day-to-day and logistics for content coverage and publication. The LongJaunt special section helped earn The Globe's online travel section the distinction as 2008's "Best travel website" as awarded by the Society of American Travel Writers. See site: <http://boston.com/longjaunt/>

*World Traveler / Co-Founder*

### The Boston Globe/Boston.com | 2005 - 2007

Developed and designed some of the Globe's first truly interactive graphics in Flash/ActionScript using databases and XML feeds as sources. Played a major role in developing the Globe's video unit, from content, visual and technical standpoints while producing pieces that complimented print versions of the story. Regularly produced pieces in multiple mediums for the same story such as writing a piece, shooting the video and taking the photos or developing a corresponding interactive graphic. Covered wide range of topics including the New Hampshire Presidential Primary, 2007 World Series and the start of the mortgage crisis.

*Senior Multimedia Producer, Multimedia Producer, Travel Producer*

### Technician | 2002 - 2004

Led a diverse staff of more than 100 writers, editors, photographers and designers as editor in chief of the daily student paper. Lived under the rigors of producing a daily publication, serving the 28,000 students at North Carolina State University. Set and managed an operating budget of nearly \$400,000.

*Editor In Chief, News Editor, Design Editor, Staff Writer*

### Daily Hampshire Gazette | 1998 - 2000

Designed and developed for the Daily Hampshire Gazette's award-winning site (circulation 40,000).

*Web Intern*

## + EDUCATION

### B.S. Computer Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC | 2004

Senior design project: Developed software video analysis program to "find" roads, vehicles and other objects to steer and control an autonomously driven vehicle as part of a Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) sponsored race. Car successfully completed 28 miles of the DARPA course without any human direction using the aid of the system. Core computer science coursework included Human Computer Interaction, Data Structures, Databases, Computer Graphics and Operating Systems Design. Additional coursework in advanced news writing, copy editing, Arabic and political science courses.



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## + AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

*The Boston Globe*, multiple awards by Globe management in recognition for work on business, politics and sports coverage and systems innovation.

*Associated College Press Design Award*, first place, illustration (2005), First place, infographic (2004)

*College Media Advisors*, placed in three different categories in print design (2004)

*Macworld Magazine*, software “Icon-It” published in David Pogue’s “Macworld Performa/Power Macintosh Secrets” included with every consumer Macintosh produced by Apple Computer that year and two newsstand magazine issues of Macworld, 150,000 copies distributed (1993, 96)

## + RANDOM FACTS

Once ran 60 miles in 24 hours. Traveled to 42 countries. Favorites include Lebanon, Laos, Cambodia, South Korea, Germany and Mexico. Has flown in a plane, helicopter, hot air balloon and blimp - life goal is to add rocket-ship. Full name is 36 letters long.