

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

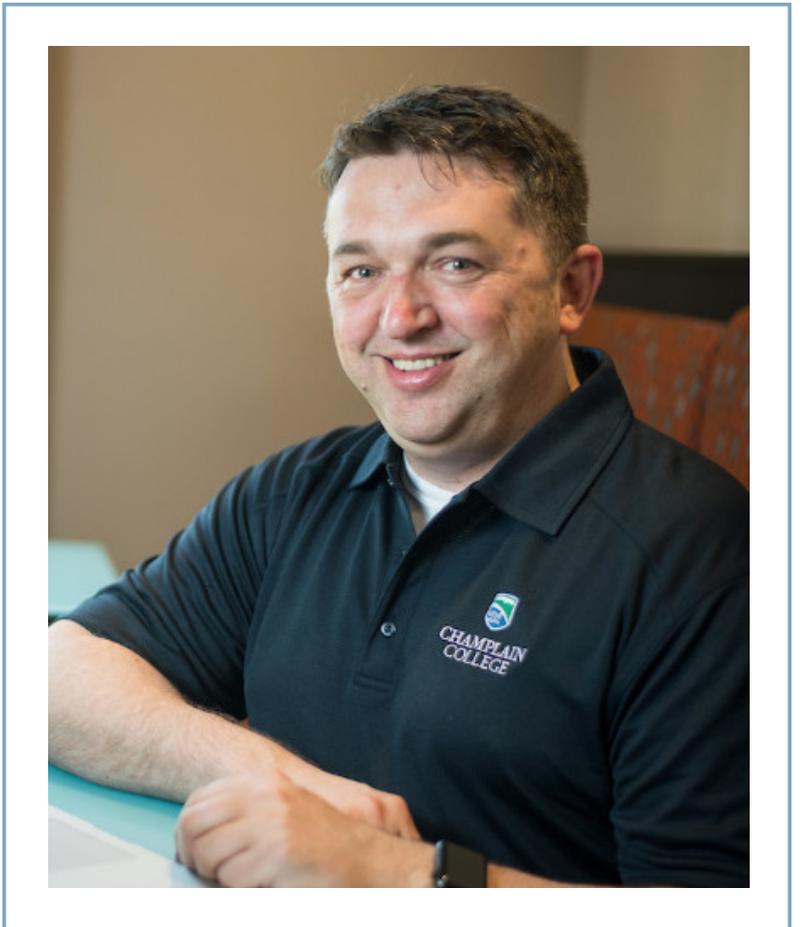


CHAMPLAIN  
COLLEGE

## Meet Don!

### Don Mulvihill, B.S. '18

Don Mulvihill, a recent graduate from Champlain College Online, talks about his experience as a student in the Web Programming and Development program and the impact it has had on his career. I had been working in a tech-focused field for decades until I was suddenly laid off. I began looking for a new job, but I soon realized that not having a bachelor's degree was holding me back. I knew how difficult it would be to find work without one, so after discussing it with my wife, I decided to go back to school after over twenty years.



I knew I wanted to get a degree in web design and development, because I had been working in a related field. It was information I already had an understanding of, and I didn't want to make a complete career change - I wanted to continue with the work I was already doing, so getting a credential in that field just made sense, and I knew that getting a degree in my field would be very important for potential employers.

I didn't have a particular institution in mind, but I knew I wanted an online degree for the flexibility it could offer. Beyond that, my only criteria was that it would let me complete a degree in as little time as possible. I went online to research schools offering degrees in the field, and ultimately chose Champlain College Online.

My experience at Champlain was challenging and rewarding, and I felt like the school truly cared about my success as an individual - they really worked with me to tailor my education to what I needed, in so many different ways.

The school also helped me find opportunities to get credit for my experience and what I already knew. I ended up being able to test out of eight courses, which saved me so much time, because I was already familiar with the material. Because of this ability to apply my work experience to my degree program, I was ultimately able to finish my entire bachelor's degree in a year and a half.

Going back to school was a really big deal for me, and to finally get a degree was huge. I worked my way up in the business world without a college degree, but I always felt like I was missing out on something without a degree. I have a tremendous amount of experience, but not having the degree really hurt me. Losing my job ended up being a great opportunity to fill that void.

Going back to school has already had a significant impact on my career. Just having a bachelor's degree has made a difference going back into the workforce - I felt more prepared and more confident than I ever had when applying to jobs, and I did find a new position in my field. I've finally achieved something I've wanted to achieve for my entire life, and I'm proud of myself for being able to accomplish this.