301 W Curtis Rd Savoy, IL 217-904-2808 GEKUKE01@GMAIL.COM PERSONAL WEBSITE

GILCHRIST EKUKE

Summary: Product Manager & Startup Founder with 4 years of experience building and launching user-focused products. Skilled in product strategy, user research, roadmap planning, and metrics-driven decision-making, delivering solutions that impact hundreds of users and improve business metrics.

PORTFOLIO PRODUCT

Ritt — AI-powered Citizenship Test Web App (2025)

- Designed and executed the product roadmap and go-to-market strategy for an AI-driven citizenship study platform, outperforming competitors in user satisfaction.
- Conducted user research, usability testing, and implemented data analytics to inform continuous feature iteration.
- Leveraged Python and SQL for backend integration and product analytics, achieving rapid growth to 481 users and 25+ daily active users within the first 14 days (20% avg. daily growth).
- Applied KPI tracking to optimize retention and user learning outcomes.

Ofele — Church Program Management Web App (2024)

- Identified operational inefficiencies and defined product requirements for scheduling, events, and electronic prayer requests.
- Designed and tested user-centric workflows that achieved 100% adoption among 12 department members, with plans to expand usage to the broader church community.
- Collected user feedback and applied UI/UX improvements, resulting in measurable usability gains.

Wepyk — *Schedule-Based Rideshare Platform (2021–2023)*

- Led a cross-functional team of engineers and designers, managing the full
 product lifecycle from concept to launch using Agile principles and Git-based
 CI/CD workflows. This platform addressed rideshare commuters' cost and
 convenience challenges.
- Conducted over 1,000 user interviews to inform product requirements, product-market fit, prioritize features, and refine data-driven decision-making.
- Delivered MVP that attracted hundreds of sign-ups and four paying customers.

EXPERIENCE

Wepyk — *Founder & Product Manager* | 11/2021–03/2023

- Defined product vision, roadmap, and feature prioritization aligned with user needs and business goals.
- Collaborated with engineering, design, and marketing teams to deliver a scalable MVP, using Python APIs and Dockerized environments.
- Led engineering team to deliver MVP and iterated based on user feedback and metrics.
- Measured success through key product metrics (conversion rate, number of riders, bookings, retention, and engagement), ensuring each iteration was validated by data and user testing.

Independent Contractor (Driver) | 04/2018–Present

- Delivered excellent service with reliability and consistency, demonstrating **problem-solving**, **adaptability**, and **user empathy** all critical PM traits.
- Resolved customer issues with a focus on communication, efficiency, and user satisfaction.

Legal Inter. Services — French Linguist Specialist — 04/12/2024–12/15/2024

- Facilitated sensitive communication between unaccompanied immigrant minors and staff at HHS facilities.
- Applied analytical thinking and cultural intelligence to ensure clear, accurate, and empathetic interpretation across languages.

CERTIFICATE

Product Management (Udemy / Microsoft PM)

Python · SQL · JavaScript · HTML/CSS

EDUCATION

Parkland College — Coursework in Information Systems

University of Kinshasa (Abroad) — Coursework in Oil & Gas Engineering — May 2016