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Erik Lee Stayton

Résumé

16 Holly Lane, Ashland, MA 01721

estayton@mit.edu 774.217.3561

www.estayton.com

Current Position:

Digital Media S.M. Candidate
Comparative Media Studies
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, MA 02139

Education:

Ongoing	Master of Science Comparative Media Studies	MIT Cambridge, MA
2011	Bachelor of Science, Magna Cum Laude Sc.B. Physics, Honors A.B. English	Brown University Providence, RI

Relevant Experience:

Ongoing	Graduate Research Assistant The Trope Tank	MIT Cambridge, MA
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Work in The Trope Tank involves studying material objects including games, electronic literature, and computational systems, and performing software development work on the Slant project. Slant is computational creativity system that involves multiple components collaborating in a process of story generation. Computational creativity is a branch of artificial intelligence research focused on the development of algorithms that at least appear to be creative. The Slant project attempts to generate new, surprising, and valuable stories by combining the activities of multiple domain-specific components: Mexica Libre for plots, Verso for genres, Fig-S for figurations, and Griot-Gen and Curveship-Gen for representation and text realization.

Ongoing	Software Development for Open Research	Cinnamon Bird
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Currently working on developing several tools for open, distributed knowledge development for scientists and public intellectuals. Research with Cinnamon Bird is going along two intersecting paths: developing a collaborative writing, annotating, and scholarship tool, and building an ad-hoc knowledge-visualization toolkit.

2012 - 2013 Systems Administration

Diagnosys Academy

Setting up and administrating a CentOS-based virtual private webserver and Moodle learning management system. Building and administering MySQL databases, running and monitoring Apache HTTPD and PHP services.

2011 - 2013 Mobile Health and Visualization Researcher

Cinnamon Bird

Researching and developing mobile health applications. cbGrocery, short for Cinnamon Bird Grocery is an innovative tool for creating shopping lists, based around the concept of identifying nutrient deficits in your shopping cart and providing suggestions to correct those deficiencies before you even enter the store. Project: Lifeline, Cinnamon Bird's winning entrant in the 2011 Health 2.0 challenge sponsored by the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response at HHS, is a Facebook application with which to view the wellbeing of your friends. You designate "lifelines," such as spouses, parents, children, or friends, whom you trust to update the public interface with your status in case you are unable to do so. The application thereby provides a trusted information board that can be used to crowdsource the search for missing persons.

2010 - 2011 Undergraduate Research Assistant

Brown University

Brown University Department of Physics

Providence, RI

Programming custom tools and extensions for gravitational lensing research, using datasets of tens- and hundreds-of-thousands of objects. Data analysis tools to study small ellipticity variations over gravitational lensing regions were built for Linux and Solaris. Legacy software tools used included IRAF, and new tools were built in Python and Perl.

2007 - 2013 Writing, Editing, and Instructional Design

Freelance

Performing writing, editing, quality assurance and instructional design work for a variety of publishers and publishing subcontractors including nSight Inc., DiacriTech, and Chameleon Publishing. Worked on multiple projects as a subcontractor for large publishing companies including Pearson, and higher-educational institutions including Northern Arizona University.

2004 - 2013 User Interface Design

Freelance

Performing graphic design and interface programming since 2004, starting with web programming in HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. Completed the graphic and interface design for Post- magazine at Brown University and for a number of Cinnamon Bird projects, as well as for other local companies and individuals.

Research Interests:

Primary

- Research on the social, judicial, and affective implications of autonomous algorithmic agents
- The history of different programming language paradigms and their effects on creative production
- Developing tools for distributed, open-source science and scholarship

Secondary

- Intelligent tutoring, and role of AI software systems in teaching, learning, and play
- Digital editions, hypertext, electronic literature, and game studies, particularly focused on the effects of the material properties of hardware and software systems
- Interfaces and data visualization, particularly for mobile health tracking

Skillset:

HTML, CSS, JavaScript, C, XML, SQL, Python, Perl, VB, Clojure, Racket
Flash, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, 3dsMax, LaTeX, Audacity
MATLAB, Mathematica, Maple, SPSS
Mac, PC, Linux, Solaris