

Robert B Elwell
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Employment

Aetherquest Solutions – Software Architect Burlingame CA, 09/2010 - Present
Responsibilities include web development, project management, and technical definition for large-scale changes to a highly configurable event management platform, powered by the Zend Framework. Supervise 4 US developers and a team of 6 offshore developers. Spearheaded a move from SVN to Git. Implemented a highly responsive release management workflow using best practices in Git and Agile project management concepts. Implemented a continuous integration solution for QA server. Developed expertise in the PayFloPro payment processing API. Introduced service-layer architecture to reduce repetition across administrative and public modules.

MailChimp Integration Fund recipient for API integration to PHPPOS, an open-source project.

Vertive, Inc. – Web Developer Austin, TX 12/2008 – 09/2010
Performed a variety of web development duties on Offers.com, a Zend Framework-powered site published by LinkShare's 2009 awardee for most innovative publisher. Developed search application from the ground up, first using Zend_Search_Lucene, and then using Apache Solr. Responsibilities ranged from back-end to front-end, from MySQL to jQuery, all aspects of search, including indexing, display, and autocomplete; natural language processing for SEO; newsletter design, distribution, and list maintenance, and implementation of front-end design.

Apogee Search – Computational Linguist Austin, TX 05/2008 – 12/2008
LAMP development and natural language processing consultant for one of Inc Magazine's 500 fastest growing privately held companies in the United States. Used statistical NLP techniques to build valuable LAMP-based tools for the purpose of informing SEO analyst research and reporting. Led development of an SEO viability analysis engine covering over 40 points of data on client websites using both in-house and external APIs.

UT Austin, Linguistics Dept. Research Assistant Austin, TX 06/2007–05/2008
Conducted NSF-funded research into computational methods for semantic and discourse analysis. Built a state-of-the-art implementation for a novel problem in discourse parsing. Assisted in the teaching of an introductory computational linguistics course.

Education

M.A. Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin, 2008

Thesis Title: Robust Methods for Automated Discourse Connective Argument Head Identification

B.A. Linguistics (Honors), State University of New York at Albany, 2005, Summa Cum Laude

Skills

PHP5 (Zend Framework), LAMP stack, HTML, MySQL, CSS, XML, JavaScript (jQuery), web APIs (Google, Yahoo, MailChimp, PayPal), Git, Phing, Apache Lucene, Apache Solr, Python, Some Ruby on Rails; Unix/Linux mastery, Windows Proficiency. Spanish mastery.

Certifications

Zend PHP5, Zend Framework, Certified MySQL Associate