

# Robert Stanley Swier

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**Profile** Skilled researcher, programmer, teacher and student. Well-organized and self-motivated, and greatly experienced in working with students of all ages.

**Education** **Master of Science, University of Toronto (2008)**  
Computer Science (Computational Linguistics)  
Topic: Minimally Supervised Acquisition of Verb Semantics

**Master of Science, University of Rochester (2002)**  
Computer Science (Computational Linguistics)  
Topic: Automatic Acquisition of Adjective Knowledge for Dialog Systems

**Bachelor of Science, University of Rochester (2001)**  
Computer Science, with High Distinction

## Experience

5/08—9/09 Business development. Osaka, Japan  
*In preparation of the launch of a start-up company, independently developed statistical software for evaluating English language proficiency and for assisting in the acquisition of English as a secondary language.*

5/08—5/09 Native English Teacher, GEOS Corporation. Osaka, Japan  
*Taught English in a "conversation school" environment, and performed non-teaching duties such as textbook sales and student record-keeping.*

9/02—1/08 Graduate Researcher and Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto. Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
*Created the world's first unsupervised semantic role labeler, and investigated methods for the automatic expansion of computational lexicons.*

5/01—5/02 Graduate Researcher and Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science, University of Rochester. Rochester, New York, United States  
*Designed and implemented improvements to the lexicon of TRIPS, a world-class natural language understanding system.*

9/98—5/01 Undergraduate Researcher, Department of Computer Science, University of Rochester. Rochester, New York, United States  
*Developed software to aid the development of a natural language understanding system.*

6/98—8/98 Summer Camp Area Director, Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. Gilmanton Ironworks, New Hampshire, United States  
*Managed a 12 person staff responsible for teaching outdoor skills to boys from 12 to 17 years of age. Developed courses and activities, and set schedules for staff and campers.*

9/97—5/98 Computer Sales Employee, University of Rochester.  
*Performed computer technical support and standard retail duties.*

6/97—8/97 Summer Camp Staff Member, Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, New Hampshire.  
6/95—8/95 *Over three different summers, planned and delivered lessons on ecology and conservation,*  
6/94—8/94 *and lead groups of campers in activities such as hikes and canoe trips.*

## Assistant Teaching Experience at the University of Toronto

Winter, 2008	<i>Introduction to Computer Science and Software Design</i> (both undergrad)
Fall, 2007	<i>Software Design</i> and <i>Introduction to Computer Programming</i> (both undergrad)
Summer, 2007	Help Centre Head TA (undergrad) and <i>Computing Insights</i> (high school)
Winter, 2007	Help Centre Head TA (undergrad)
Fall, 2006	<i>Software Design</i> (undergrad)
Summer, 2006	<i>The How and Why of Computing</i> (undergrad)
Winter, 2006	<i>Software Design</i> (undergrad)
Fall, 2005	<i>Software Design</i> (undergrad)
Summer, 2005	Courseware development TA-ship
Winter, 2005	<i>Natural Language Computing</i> (grad/undergrad)
Fall, 2004	<i>Accelerated Introduction to Computer Science</i> (undergrad)
Summer, 2004	<i>Introduction to Computer Programming</i> (undergrad)
Winter, 2004	<i>Introduction to Computer Programming</i> (undergrad)
Fall, 2003	<i>Principles of Programming Languages</i> (undergrad)
Summer, 2003	<i>Computing Insights</i> (high school)
Winter, 2003	<i>Algorithms, Data Structures, and Analysis</i> (undergrad)
Fall, 2002	<i>Introduction to Computer Programming</i> (undergrad)

## Assistant Teaching Experience at the University of Rochester

Fall, 2001	<i>Computation and Formal Systems</i> (undergrad)
Fall, 1999	<i>Introduction to Computer Programming</i> (undergrad)
Winter, 1999	<i>Introduction to Computers</i> (undergrad)

## Publications

**Robert S. Swier** and Suzanne Stevenson, *Exploiting a Verb Lexicon in Automatic Semantic Role Labelling*. Proceedings of the Joint Human Language Technology Conference and Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (HLT/EMNLP-05). Vancouver, British Columbia, October, 2005.

**Robert S. Swier** and Suzanne Stevenson, *Unsupervised Semantic Role Labelling*. Proceedings of the 2004 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2004), pp. 95--102, Barcelona, Spain, July 2004.

George Ferguson, James Allen, Nate Blaylock, Donna Byron, Nate Chambers, Myroslava Dzikovska, Lucian Galescu, Xipeng Shen, **Robert Swier**, and Mary Swift, *The Medication Advisor Project: Preliminary Report*, Technical Report 776, Dept. of Computer Science, University of Rochester, May 2002.

<b>Citizenship</b>	United States
<b>Languages</b>	English (native) Japanese (basic, actively studying) Spanish (4 years high school study)
<b>Interests</b>	Fine-art Photography (see <a href="http://www.robertswier.com">http://www.robertswier.com</a> ) Japanese language and culture Outdoor activities, in particular backcountry canoeing

*References available upon request.*