

Biographical Sketch George Ferguson

Professional Preparation

McGill University	B.Sc.	1987	Math & Computer Science
University of Alberta	M.S.	1989	Computing Science
University of Rochester	M.S.	1991	Computer Science
University of Rochester	Ph.D.	1995	Computer Science

Professional Appointments

1997-	Research Scientist, University of Rochester
1995-1997	Post-doctoral Researcher, Research Associate, University of Rochester
1990-1994	Research Assistant, University of Rochester
1990	Teaching Assistant, University of Rochester

Related Publications

- Allen, James F., George Ferguson, and Amanda Stent, "An architecture for more realistic conversational systems," in *Proceedings of Intelligent User Interfaces 2001 (IUI-01)*, Santa Fe, NM, January 14-17, 2001.
- Allen, James F., Donna K. Byron, Myroslava O. Dzikovska, George Ferguson, Lucian Galescu, and Amanda Stent, "An Architecture for a Generic Dialogue Shell," *Journal of Natural Language Engineering (Special Issue on Best Practices in Spoken Dialogue Systems Engineering)*, 6(3): 1-16, December, 2000.
- Ferguson, George, and James F. Allen, "TRIPS: An Integrated Intelligent Problem-Solving Assistant," *Proceedings of the Fourteenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-98)*, Madison, MI, 26-30 July, 1998.
- Ferguson, George, James F. Allen, Brad W. Miller, and Eric K. Ringger, "The design and implementation of the TRAINS-96 system: A prototype mixed-initiative planning assistant," TRAINS Technical Note 96-5, Department of Computer Science, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, October 1996.
- Allen, James F., Lenhart K. Schubert, George Ferguson, Peter Heeman, Chung Hee Hwang, Tsuneaki Kato, Marc Light, Nathaniel G. Martin, Bradford W. Miller, Massimo Poesio, and David R. Traum, "The TRAINS project: A case study in defining a conversational planning agent," *Journal of Experimental and Theoretical AI*, 7:7-48, 1995.

Other Significant Publications

- Allen, James F., Donna Byron, Myroslava Dzikovska, George Ferguson, Lucian Galescu, and Amanda Stent, "Towards conversational human-computer interaction," *AI Magazine*, 2001. To appear.
- Allen, James F., George Ferguson, Bradford W. Miller, Eric K. Ringger, and Teresa Sikorski, "Dialogue Systems: From Theory to Practice in TRAINS-96," in Robert

- Dale, Hermann Moisl, and Harold Somers (eds.), *Handbook of Natural Language Processing*, pages 347–376. Marcel Dekkar, Inc., 2000.
- Burstein, Mark, George Ferguson, and James Allen, *Integrating Agent-Based Mixed-Initiative Control with an Existing Multi-Agent Planning System*, Technical Report 729, Computer Science Dept., University of Rochester, May 2000.
- Allen, James F., and George Ferguson, “Actions and events in interval temporal logic,” in Oliviero Stock, ed., *Spatial and Temporal Reasoning*, pages 205–245. Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1997.
- Ferguson, George, James Allen, and Brad Miller, “TRAINS-95: Towards a mixed-initiative planning assistant,” in Brian Drabble, ed., *Proceedings of the Third Conference on Artificial Intelligence Planning Systems (AIPS-96)*, pages 70–77, Edinburgh, Scotland, 29–31 May 1996.
- Traum, David R., Lenhart K. Schubert, Massimo Poesio, Nat Martin, Marc Light, Chung Hee Hwang, Peter Heeman, George Ferguson, and James F. Allen, “Knowledge representation in the TRAINS-93 conversation system,” *International Journal of Expert Systems*, 9(1):173–223, 1996.
- Ferguson, George, *Knowledge Representation and Reasoning for Mixed-Initiative Planning*, PhD thesis, Department of Computer Science, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, November 1994. Available as Technical Report 562.
- Ferguson, George, and James F. Allen, “Arguing about plans: Plan representation and reasoning for mixed-initiative planning,” in *Proceedings of the Second International Conference on AI Planning Systems (AIPS-94)*, pages 43–48, Chicago, IL, 13–15 June 1994.
- Allen, James F., and George Ferguson, “Actions and events in interval temporal logic,” *Journal of Logic and Computation*, 4(5):531–579, 1994.

Synergistic Activities

- Founding Chair, AAAI Intelligent Systems Demonstration Program

Recent Collaborators

James Allen, University of Rochester
Dana Ballard, University of Rochester
Chris Brown, University of Rochester
Mark Burstein, BBN Inc.
Sandhya Dwarkadas, University of Rochester
Jason Eisner, University of Rochester
Brad Miller, Cycorp Inc.
Randall Nelson, University of Rochester
Massimo Poesio, University of Edinburgh
Eric Ringger, Microsoft Corp.
Michael Scott, University of Rochester
Lenhart Schubert, University of Rochester
David Traum, University of Maryland

Graduate and Post-Graduate Advisor

James F. Allen, University of Rochester

Recent Students and Post-Docs

Neal Lesh, post-doc 1997; now at Mitsubishi Electric Research Lab, Cambridge, MA

Ph.D. Dissertations Supervised: 0

Post-Doctoral Fellows Supervised: 1