

Tod J. Allman

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Education:

Ph.D. in Linguistics, December 2010.
University of Texas, Arlington, Texas.

Dissertation: The Translator's Assistant: A Multilingual Natural Language Generator based on Linguistic Universals, Typologies, and Primitives. I developed software which enables linguists to build lexicons and grammars for a wide variety of languages. I also developed a semantic representational system specifically for minority and endangered languages. I then tested the software with English, Korean, Jula (Cote d'Ivoire), Kewa (Papua New Guinea), and Banjar (Indonesia). In each test language the generated texts more than quadrupled the productivity of experienced mother-tongue translators.

Master of Arts in Linguistics, May 1989.
University of Texas, Arlington, Texas.

Thesis: Machine Translation of a Greek Parable into English, Spanish, Angas and Chinantec. I developed software which assists linguists who are translating the New Testament into minority languages. After a linguist has built a target lexicon and grammar, the program generates a draft of the target text using the Friberg Annotated Greek New Testament as the source.

Master of Divinity, May 1986.
Talbot Theological Seminary, LaMirada, California.
Emphasis in Bible translation.

Master of Engineering, May 1982.
Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, California.
Emphasis in microcomputer system design.

Bachelor of Science, May 1981.
Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, California.
Major in General Engineering with emphasis in systems engineering.

Appointments:

2012-present: Adjunct faculty member, Department of Applied Linguistics, Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics, Dallas, TX. I teach a course which introduces students to the natural language generator that I developed for minority languages.

2010-present: President and Co-founder, The Bible Translator's Assistant Inc. (non-profit) www.TheBibleTranslatorsAssistant.org We're a small group of computational linguists who help people who are translating the Bible and community development documents into minority and endangered languages.

Publications:

A. Papers in Refereed Journals:

Allman, Tod. 2004. A Natural Language Generator for Minority Languages. *Word & Deed*, Vol. 3, No. 2, pp. 25-30.

Allman, Tod and Stephen Beale. 2004. An environment for quick ramp-up multi-lingual authoring. *International Journal of Translation*, Vol. 16, No. 1, pp. 73-85.

B. Papers in Refereed Proceedings:

Allman, Tod, Stephen Beale and Richard Denton. 2012. accepted. Linguist's Assistant: A Multi-Lingual Natural Language Generator based on Linguistic Universals, Typologies, and Primitives. In *Proceedings of 7th International Natural Language Generation Conference (INLG-12)*, Utica, IL.

Beale, Stephen and Tod Allman. 2011. Linguist's Assistant: a resource for linguists. In *Proceedings of 5th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing (IJCNLP-11)*, The 9th Workshop on Asian Language Resources, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Allman, Tod, and Stephen Beale. 2006. A Natural Language Generator for Minority Languages. In *Proceedings of 5th SALTMIL 2006 workshop: Strategies for developing machine translation for minority languages*, pp. 39-46, Genoa, Italy.

Beale, Stephen, Sergei Nirenburg, Marjorie McShane and Tod Allman. 2005. Document Authoring the Bible for Minority Language Translation. In *Proceedings of MT-Summit*. Phuket, Thailand.

C. Invited Papers:

Beale, Stephen, Tod Allman, Rachel Roxas and Joel Ilao. 2012. A preliminary report on the Linguist's Assistant implementation of Tagalog. Invited paper for the 12th Philippine Computing Science Congress (PCSC-12), Laguna, Philippines. Draft available at: <http://onyxcons.com/LA/papers/pcsc-12.pdf>

Conference Presentations:

"Linguist's Assistant: A Multi-Lingual Natural Language Generator based on Linguistic Universals, Typologies, and Primitives"
International Natural Language Generation (INLG-12), Utica, IL. May 31st, 2012.

"Natural Language Generation and the Typology of Relative Clauses"
Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students. Arlington, TX. March 26th, 2009.

"A Natural Language Generator for Minority Languages"
The Eleventh Annual UTA Student Conference in Linguistics. Arlington, TX. Nov. 7th, 2003.

Teaching Experience:

Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics, Dallas, TX. Applied Linguistics Department. 2012 to present. I teach a course called Introduction to The Bible Translator's Assistant. This course introduces students to the natural language generator which I designed and developed specifically for Bible translators.

Biola University, La Mirada, CA. Math and Computer Science Department. 1984-1986. Courses include Introduction to Computer Science, Business Calculus, and Advanced Algebra.

University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. Linguistics Department. Summers of '89, '90, '93, '95, '96. Professor's assistant. Courses include Functional Typological Grammar and Morphology and Syntax.

Professional Experience:

2010 to present: Senior software consultant for Onyx Consulting. I help develop a semantic analyzer that consists of a preprocessor, Stanford's syntax parser, a heuristic based linker, and a semantic constraint engine. This semantic analyzer parses English texts and produces text meaning representations which are then used in a variety of applications: machine translation, data mining, referent tracking, etc.

1986 to 2009: Part-time software consultant for Rain Bird. I helped develop software that controls golf course irrigation systems throughout N. America, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

Fellowships:

Union Oil Fellowship (1981-1982).
Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2010).

Research Interests:

Natural Language Generation
Meaning Representation
Theories of Translation
Semantics
Syntax
Lexicography

References:

Available upon request