

Susan P. Converse

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Education

PhD, Computer and Information Science, **University of Pennsylvania**, 2006
Thesis in computational linguistics: *Pronominal Anaphora Resolution in Chinese*

MSE, Computer and Information Science, **University of Pennsylvania**, 1998
(preceded by 12 courses in computer science at Metropolitan College of Boston University)

AB, Asian Studies, **Wellesley College**: Wellesley Scholar; ski team captain
(with two summers at Middlebury College Summer Language School for intensive second- and fifth-year Chinese language)

Research and Teaching Experience

Chinese ACE

Managed Penn's team for the 2004 Chinese Automatic Content Extraction effort and updated and enhanced the co-reference component from 2003

Worked on the co-reference component as part of the Penn team for the 2003 Chinese ACE competition: work in Java using a machine-learning toolkit on a cluster running Linux

Chinese Coreference Annotation

Wrote guidelines and supervised native Chinese speakers in annotation of the Penn Chinese Treebank for pronominal co-reference

Helped with corrections to the English translation of the Chinese Treebank and translated 17 of the files

Chinese Coreference Resolution

Implemented and evaluated a rule-based method and machine-learning models for resolving third-person pronouns in Chinese texts

Teaching Assistant for CSE 120 and 121: Programming Languages and Techniques I & II

Professional Activities

Member of the Program Committee, 21st International Conference on Computer Processing of Oriental Languages (ICCPOL 2006)

Provided editorial support to classmates in writing their research papers

Previous Employment

Software Engineer

1984 – 1995

Teradyne, Inc., Boston, MA

Started at Teradyne by porting a large part (100K lines of C, 10K lines of FORTRAN) of the LASAR product (a digital logic simulator and the suite of support programs) from VAX/VMS to an MC68000-based design workstation running Unix.

Assumed responsibility for nine programs and wrote four new ones for translating circuit descriptions from other vendors' formats into Teradyne's model languages. Performed all steps of the development process: clarified requirements, wrote design and functional specifications, fixed bugs and kept the translators up to date with format changes, added features for performance and ease of use, performed unit and integration tests, wrote scripts for automated regression testing, wrote documentation, and provided applications support.

Took on additional responsibility for maintaining and upgrading the main Netlist Compiler program (60,000± lines of C) that worked with another program to translate a circuit description into the binary model format for the simulator. Fixed bugs, kept the seven "back end" languages up to date, added new features, made the program more modular, improved its comments and edited the product's reference manual to make it clearer. Supported two versions of the program each in two different product lines.

Developed a new front-end to the Netlist Compiler as part of the integration of the LASAR product into the Mentor Graphics Falcon Framework, using Mentor's API for input. Supported a customized standalone version of the program needed by another Teradyne product group.

Took over the user interface and glue code of a suite of programs for placing test points for optimum testability during circuit design. The user interface and programs ran within the object-oriented Falcon Framework. Worked with two other product groups to deliver specifications and tested programs with the required functionality by the required dates.

Computer Programmer

1982 – 1984

John Hancock Mutual Insurance Company, Boston, MA

Rewrote in PL/I a COBOL program that generated a report of outstanding deficits, both to accept a new input record structure and to update the calculations to new specifications. Worked directly with the actuaries who received the reports to clarify their requirements. Had primary responsibility for scheduling large jobs (using JCL) and resolving any execution-time problems by phone or in person if jobs crashed during the overnight runs. Ran many smaller jobs to generate reports on an as-needed basis for the actuarial group.

Research Assistant

Summer, 1979

Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, Washington, D.C.

Planned and implemented a search for nominees for the Advisory Council of the Institute for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (new foreign aid agency that made it out of Conference Committee alive, but died in appropriations).

Positions using Chinese

Taiwan: Translated (Chinese to English) articles “about things Chinese” for *ECHO Magazine*, an English-language monthly. Edited copy, corrected proofs, helped with whatever needed to be done in the small office. Revised the Taiwan chapter of Fodor’s Travel Guide for 1975. Bilingual Administrative Assistant for a small export business.

Hong Kong: Research Assistant to Dr. Ying-shih Yu. Helped Dr. Yu prepare two book chapters (English) concerning early Chinese history. Typed, edited, checked references, did research. Translator for Dr. C. T. Hu. Translated (Chinese to English) materials about education in the P.R.C.

Publications

Susan P. Converse. 2006. *Pronominal Anaphora Resolution in Chinese*. PhD Thesis.
Department of Computer and Information Science, University of Pennsylvania

“Co-reference Annotation Guidelines for the Penn Chinese Treebank”
<http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~spc/guide.html>

Susan P. Converse. 2005. “Resolving Pronominal References in Chinese with the Hobbs Algorithm” *Proceedings of the Fourth SIGHAN Workshop on Chinese Language Processing*

Susan Converse. 2002. “Developing Guidelines for the Annotation of Anaphors in the Chinese Treebank” in Benjamin K. T’sou, Olivia O. Y. Kwong, and Tom B. Y Lai, editors, *Proceedings of the First SIGHAN Workshop on Chinese Language Processing*

Susan P. Converse. 2000. “The Representation of Action in Computational Systems” Paper in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Written Preliminary Examination II.

Other Information

Tools: C, Java, Perl, Pascal, Unix, Linux

Languages: native English speaker, Chinese (Mandarin), French, limited German

Editorial experience (English) and translation experience (Chinese to English)

Volunteer work: former trustee and president of the board of the Hahnemann Hospital, Brookline, MA; mentor to two young women (started when they were fifth graders, under the auspices of Boston Partners in Education, continued independently); chaired a high school reunion; treasurer for a college reunion; fund-raising volunteer at WGBH, Boston; spent a month working at a dolphin lab in Hawaii via Earthwatch

Overseas experience: lived in Taiwan and Hong Kong; traveled in England and Wales, France, Germany, Switzerland, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, People’s Republic of China, Japan

Interests: travel, music, sailing, skiing, photography, soaring, square dancing

U. S. Citizen