Brennan Dell

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Ph.D. in Linguistics. Expected May 2024
M.A. in Linguistics. December 2021

Rochester Institute of Technology
B.S. in Computer Science, minor in German. May 2018.

AWARDS

United States Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS)
Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (CSAMES) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
August 2023 - May 2024
Language: Turkish

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Teaching Assistant   **University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign**
Urbana, Illinois   **August 2019 - May 2023**

- LING 100 - Introduction to Language Science - Grader and discussion leader
- LING 270 - Language, Technology, and Society - Primary instructor and grader
- LING 304 - Elements of Morphology - Grader and discussion leader
- LING 400 - Introduction to Linguistic Structure - Primary instructor and grader
- LING 406 - Introduction to Computational Linguistics - Grader
- LING 413 - Corpus Linguistics - Grader
- Developed assignments related to the course material
- Delivered lectures on a broad array of topics to a diverse group of students
- Led discussion sections reviewing course topics
- Developed materials for an asynchronous online course

NLP Intern   **AbbVie Inc.**
Urbana, Illinois   **June 2019 - present**

- Developed a preliminary Spanish-English translation model using OpenNMT to translate patient narratives

- Reviewed literature to understand the state of the art for machine translation
- Researched distillation methods to reduce the size of neural machine translation models
- Developed a process to remove sensitive information from a company translation database to create a public test set for translation in the medical domain

Graduate Assistant   **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
Urbana, Illinois   **August 2018 - May 2019**

- Assisted the Less Commonly Taught Languages Program with advertising efforts and organizing summer programs
- Maintained the website for the Linguistics Department
- Collected and announced information for the Linguistics Department seminar series

Undergraduate Research Assistant   **Rochester Institute of Technology**
Rochester, New York   **January 2018 - July 2018**

- Studied the supernova rate in the outskirts of spiral galaxies (published in Chakrabarti et al. 2018)
- Investigated the effect of dwarf galaxy collisions on the structure of the Milky Way

Software Test Automation Intern   **Ortho Clinical Diagnostics**
Urbana, Illinois   **May 2017 - December 2017**

- Independently designed, implemented and tested a C# application to automate data entry tasks for the test validation team
- Used UFT to automate regression testing for user interfaces of company products

Undergraduate Research Assistant   **Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation**
Rochester, New York   **September 2016 - May 2017**

- Worked with visualization software on a supercomputing cluster to create animations of black hole collisions

Undergraduate Research Assistant   **Rochester Institute of Technology**
Rochester, New York   **January 2016 - March 2017**

- Worked with an astrophysics professor studying galaxy collisions
- Created an optimized Python program which processed a large data set of galaxies to find potential collisions

Software Engineering Co-op   **Lenel Systems International**
Pittsford, New York   **August 2015 - December 2015**

- Debugged an issue in a script that was used to identify and sign company written files after a company name change
- Updated the file signing script to handle changes in company names in the future
- Identified files in the build process that were no longer being used and could be removed
- Gained experience in the Agile methodology

Student Lab Instructor   **Rochester Institute of Technology**
Rochester, New York   **August 2014 - May 2015**

- Assisted the professor with the delivery and grading of an introductory computer science course
- Assisted various students in the course and in the tutoring center outside of the course

MENTORSHIP   *Undergraduate*   **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
Research   **August 2022 - May 2023**
Apprenticeship Program (URAP)

- Interviewed candidates for the mentee position
- Attended workshops on mentoring strategies
- Worked with a mentee to develop an independent research project
- Guided the mentee to present their results at a poster session

PUBLICATIONS   **The Supernova Rate Beyond the Optical Radius**
Sukanya Chakrabarti, Brennan Dell, Or Graur, Alexei Filippenko, Benjamin Lewis, Christopher McKee
The Astrophysical Journal Letters, Vol 863, L1. July 2018.
https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.07585

Brennan Dell

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Fine-grained Error Analysis in Machine Translation
Brennan Dell
15th Meeting of the Illinois Language and Linguistics Society

Modelling Optional Sound Variation and Obligatory Gesture Assimilation Using LSTM RNNs
Marco Fonseca, Brennan Dell
Laboratory Phonology (Workshop on Neural Network Models for Articulatory Gestures