

Shimon Rura
Somerville, MA
(617) 600-4423
shimon@rura.org

A current version of this document is always available at <http://rura.org/shimon>.

Summary: Versatile and productive software developer with a broad range of experience in web applications, from prototyping to building and managing teams. Seeking consulting or contract work based in Boston, MA or remotely with travel or telecommuting.

Employment

Freelance Software Developer (self-employed), June 2008–present. Web applications developed include NeoCollect, an online community site for collectors of fine and decorative arts; Gigblastr.com, an event publishing/promotion tool; and Whozaround, a facebook application designed to help you gather with friends. Tools/languages include Python, Django, Google AppEngine, PostgreSQL, and Twisted.

Member of Technical Staff, Renesys Corp., October 2005–May 2008. Technical lead for BabbleDog, a personalized social news site. Developed the product from concept to prototype, and then led a development team to a beta release in 2007. Following a lackluster performance, led implementation of a reconceptualized BabbleDog, including hiring and training new development staff. The second iteration of BabbleDog was released in early 2008.

Technologies used included Perl, Catalyst, PostgreSQL, Fedora Directory Server, Python, Twisted, and Django, all in a CentOS Linux environment.

Prior to that, worked as lead developer for Renesys Market Intelligence, a Java-based product designed to provide competitive intelligence and statistical metrics for sales and marketing staff at major Internet providers.

Board of Directors, Photo.net, May 2006–April 2007. Provided advice, oversight, and support to employees, board, and shareholders. Photo.net is an online community site with over 5 million visits monthly. Acquired in April 2007 by NameMedia, Inc.

Software Engineer, Kronos, Inc., August 2003–October 2005. Worked in 20-developer Workforce HR/Payroll product team on a 1.8-million-line SQL/ASP.NET/Visual Basic.NET enterprise software application. Focused on database deployment/management tools, API support, workflow system, and security. Later, developed Ajax/DHTML interface for Workforce Scheduler, a J2EE/Struts application transitioning from Java applets to Ajax. Applied advanced Javascript and careful interface design to build rich, responsive, in-browser interfaces for the next generation of Kronos software.

Interim CTO, The Otter Group, May 2005–September 2005. Worked with this e-learning consultancy to explore a business in Enterprise RSS. Consulted with Otter Group employees on technical issues, software strategy, and customer/prospect engagements. Represented Otter Group to customers and prospects.

Education

Williams College, Sep 1999—Jun 2003. B.A., Computer Science. Senior honors thesis on Refactoring Aspect-Oriented Software.

Skills

Programming Languages. Python, Perl, Javascript, Java, Tcl, Lisp, SQL, Unix shell.

Software Development Tools. Emacs, Eclipse IDE, GNU Make, Subversion, CVS, Accurev, Visual SourceSafe, Visual Studio.

Web Development. Python Django, Google App Engine, Python Twisted, Apache::PageKit, Struts, ASP.NET, ArsDigita Community System (now RedHat CCM core), Apache web server, AOLServer, Perl, ASP, mod_perl, PHP, ColdFusion, Javascript, VBScript, HTML, CSS, CGI. Ajax development with XHTML/XML, Javascript, DOM, and XmlHttpRequest. Thorough XML experience including XML Schema, XPath, xlinkit, DOM, SAX, Apache Xerces; RSS and Atom syndication formats.

Databases. Administration and development experience with PostgreSQL, Fedora Directory Server, Oracle, MySQL, and Microsoft SQL Server; development on Informix.

Human Languages. Russian (conversational) and French (rusty).

Activities & Achievements

- Lead organizer of BarCamp Boston, an unconference for local techies.
- Created the Voo2do task management system (<http://voo2do.com>), a free online task tracker designed to be easy and fun to use, leveraging Ajax techniques. Has grown to over 56,000 registered users. August 2005–present.
- Coordinator of the Boston Startup Meetup, a monthly gathering of entrepreneurial software developers in the Boston area. Gatherings include informal dinners and topical discussions.
- Mentored students in MIT course 6.171, Software Engineering for Internet Applications, February–May 2006.
- Frassle blog community system (<http://frassle.net>), an open source multi-user blogging platform, November 2003–November 2005.
- Nateli (a Boston-area choir performing ancient polyphonic songs from the Caucasus Republic of Georgia), Baritone, 2005–2007.
- New Century Voices (a choir focusing on contemporary classical music), Baritone, 2003–2005.
- Williams Students Online: maintained shell/mail/web servers and develop new computing services for the Williams College community, 2000–2003.
- Williams College Cycling Team, 2000–2002 (Treasurer, 2001–2002).
- Williams College James W. Bullock scholarship.
- Senior year of high school (1999), led student-run project to build a computer lab using a GNU/Linux server so that Computer Science AP could be offered despite massive budget cuts.

References

References will be provided on request.