

Greg O’Keefe

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I have 10 years experience in IT operations, and will soon be awarded my PhD in Computer Science by the Australian National University.

PhD Candidate, Australian National University, since 2002

As a PhD candidate with the Logic and Computation group at the ANU, I have pursued research on model driven development (MDD). My work aims to make the meaning of UML models clear, precise and understandable. I have been a very active participant in the life of the University. I have formed and led interdisciplinary study groups, and participated in teaching development programmes, such as “sidecars”, a group of PhD students from diverse disciplines leading undergraduate courses. I have presented my work at three international conferences, including the leading MDD conference, ACM/IEEE MoDELS. Currently, I am the customer of a software engineering project: six software engineering students are building a UML animator based on my research.

Odd Jobs, since 2008

Because my scholarship funding finished before my research, I have been working part-time as a motorcycle “postie” with Australia Post since January 2008. It is a great job, and I take pride in serving the community in this practical way. I have also been working as a Copywriting Associate since March 2009. I work via email to complete research, writing and sub-editing assignments, mainly for business intelligence reports. Work must be completed according to a tight schedule whilst maintaining editorial standards. I have become a valued part of the writing team, and was recently described by the firm’s owner as one of his “top writers”.

Teaching, Various Universities, since 2001

I have been lecturer-in-charge of courses in relational databases and logic, as well as tutoring in programming, modelling and formal methods. This involves planning and preparation of learning activities and assessments, and working with the students individually as well as in large and small groups. The database course has almost 300 students, so an important role has been to form and lead a team of tutors. In tutorial groups, I am able to address the needs of both advanced and marginal students, creating a cooperative friendly learning atmosphere. I feel that this ability would transfer well to group sessions in the workplace.

Undergraduate, University of Tasmania, 1996 to 2001

I commenced my tertiary studies as a mature student, gaining a BSc with first-class honours in mathematics from the University of Tasmania. My results include 19 high distinctions, 2 distinctions and 2 credits. I won the Alfred Houston Philosophy prize twice (once shared), was placed on the Dean’s roll of honour twice, and received two scholarships to travel to the ANU and study there during summer breaks. I was awarded the prestigious ANU “Endowment for Excellence” PhD scholarship.

Various Roles, Social Security, 1984 to 1996

Soon after leaving school, I joined the Department of Social Security, initially performing clerical and paper handling duties. I moved into mainframe operations and production control, eventually leading a shift of around 20 people in Melbourne. The manager of the new integration testing unit in Canberra asked me to join her group. I played a leading role in establishing and operating the integration testing environment. In 1992, I returned to Hobart for family reasons, taking a position as production controller there. Following some redundancies, I became the leader of the production group of six, transferring their efforts to controlling the integration test environment I had helped set up. I was also placed in charge of a project to resolve a privacy issue which the Auditor General identified, with ad-hoc report generation. I produced a detailed report in conjunction with the local IT security officer, analysing the problem and identifying possible solutions. Although the project was not completed, because of a further round of redundancies, the report was praised at the executive level. I accepted a redundancy offer at this time in order to become a full-time student.

Key Skills and Attributes

- **analysis and research**, demonstrated in academia, professional copywriting and Social Security privacy project
- **written and verbal communication**, evidenced by refereed research publications, university teaching, copywriting work, and Social Security report
- **programming, modelling and database skills**, acquired through research activities, university teaching and Social Security work
- **leadership and teamwork**, in leading tutors and tutorial groups, teamwork in IT operations, managing a shift and production control group
- **working under pressure, meeting tight deadlines**, in copywriting work, and overnight mainframe scheduling
- **working in a large software development environment**, as part of the integration testing unit in Social Security

Referees

Neil Pellow

*Operations Manager, Mitchell Delivery Facility,
Australia Post*

I have worked under Neil as a part-time, casual Postal Delivery Officer (motorcycle) since January 2008.

phone: 02 62 08 70 28 (morning is best)

Rajeev Goré

*Senior Research Fellow, College of Engineering and Computer Science,
The Australian National University*

Raj is my PhD supervisor, and has employed me as a research assistant. Our association began in mid 2002.

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