

# RYO (RIO) LEO AKASAKA

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## EDUCATION

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- Stanford University** · Stanford, CA May 2012, *expected*  
*M.S. Computer Science, Human Computer Interaction*  
Cumulative GPA: 4.10
- Swarthmore College** · Swarthmore, PA May 2009  
*B.S. Engineering, B.A Linguistics*  
Cumulative GPA: 3.72
- University of Pennsylvania** · Philadelphia, PA Spring 2008  
Graduate Practicum in Computational Linguistics

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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- Bill Lane Center, Stanford University** January 2011 - Present  
*Research Assistant*
  - Responsible for data visualization projects related to the rural American West.
  - Employing Protovis and Polymaps for massive dataset visualizations.
  - Incorporating learning technologies in Humanities 3.0 programme.
- VelQuest Corporation, Boston, MA** June 2009 - January 2011  
*User Interface Software Engineer*
  - Designed and implemented web-based chemical inventory management system using C# and ASP.net.
  - Developed tools for portable web application use by lab analysts located globally.
  - Worked in team delivering the first product of its kind to AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb and Eli Lilly.
- Swarthmore IEEE Chapter** September 2007 - June 2009  
*Chapter President*
  - Led electrical engineering students with weekly meetings to organize projects and invite speakers.
  - Represented the Swarthmore chapter at Philadelphia's regional IEEE meetings.
  - Redesigned chapter website to increase presence and doubled membership over the course of a year.
- Lang Center for Civic and Social Responsibility** January 2008 - April 2008  
*Instructor*
  - Initiated and instructed a web design course, the first of its kind on campus.
  - Taught core concepts of XHTML code and graphic design using Photoshop for nine weeks to ten students.
  - Results of student final projects include [www.nolarize.com](http://www.nolarize.com) and [www.darfurradioproject.org](http://www.darfurradioproject.org)
- W Financial Mortgage Fund** June 2007 - August 2007  
*Web/Graphics Design Intern*
  - Contributed to company's selection of web hosting, customer relationship management and collaborative software, and rewrote website code for search engine optimization.
  - Assembled and designed a full-page print advertisement in The Real Deal magazine.
- Swarthmore College Department of Linguistics** September 2006 - June 2007  
*Endangered Languages Lab Research Assistant*
  - Digitally archived the recordings and fieldwork of Dr. K. David Harrison.
  - Developed and designed online audio dictionaries for Tuvan and Siletz languages.
- Helvetic Design** September 2006 - Present  
*Web Designer*
  - Self-operated business designing and developing websites for over 30 clients.
  - Lead web architect for Swarthmore startup, Swarthmore Storage.
  - Expert familiarity with PHP, MySQL, jQuery and WordPress CMS.

## SKILLS

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- Speaks Japanese and French as a native, conversational Portuguese.
- Programming languages: C#, Python, Java, familiar with Perl, Verilog.
- Web design: W3C compliant X/HTML, CSS, AJAX/JavaScript, PHP/MySQL, XML
- Programs: MATLAB, Praat, Visual Studio, Flash, Photoshop, Dreamweaver

## ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Editor, HCI Review.
- Recipient, Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research, December 2010.
- Recipient, Albert Vollmecke Engineering Service Award, Swarthmore College, June 2009.
- Member, Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society, November 2008.
- Associate Member, Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, November 2008.
- Author, "In the Line of Fire: A History of the Swarthmore Fire Company", 2009. ISBN: 0557044324.