



SPENCER SUGARMAN

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👤 My biggest passions are user-centered design and the good parts™ of JavaScript. These days I spend my hours working as a designer at the UPMC Technology Development Center after recently completing my master's in human-computer interaction.

EXPERIENCE

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Technology Development Center

Designer, 2012—present

Applying human-centered design to healthcare in order to architect an end-to-end solution utilizing natural-language processing to assist clinicians in synthesizing overwhelming amounts of patient data. Developing a cross-browser viewer for a comprehensive clinical document repository which supports the numerous electronic medical record software used by healthcare systems.

Carnegie Mellon University

Research Programmer, 2011—2012

Developed a cross-platform mobile application using jQuery Mobile and Phonegap to assist second-language learners. Used Amazon's Mechanical Turk platform to perform psycholinguistic research for the Department of Defense. Provided streaming media and data collection services for researchers to train the next generation of clinical psychologists.

Carnegie Mellon University

Research Associate, 2008—2011

Built an online system in PHP and JavaScript for exploring and analyzing transcripts in the world's largest corpus database of conversational speech. Transcribed and coded conversational interactions, and assisted in ongoing language experiments.

3M Company, MHCI Capstone Project, 2011

Worked for eight months in a small team to design a new product for the educational space which leveraged the company's unique industrial strengths. Performed user research to understand the needs of stakeholders. Built low- and high-fidelity hardware and software prototypes to test and convey design ideas. Provided appropriate documentation and design specifications.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2011

Worked with journalists, readers, and other locals to design a possible solution for increasing readership in light of recent industry disruptions. Designed an information hub with a focus on assisting recent transplants become acclimated to their new locale.

PERSONAL PROJECTS

Opening Data, 2012—present

Building a platform to allow citizens and governments to better understand and address social problems by providing open data, engaging communities, developing tools for analyzing and presenting results, and offering assistance to groups interested in utilizing civic data. Currently seeking funding.

Undress Me Robot, 2004—2008

Designed layout based on current best practices and community feedback. Customized and managed Wordpress backend. Recruited contributors and provided editorial oversight on all submissions. Worked with media companies to obtain promotional material.

METHODS AND SKILLS

PHP, JavaScript, HTML5/CSS3, Adobe Creative Suite, Data Analysis, Prototyping, Contextual Design, Cognitive Walkthrough, Personas, Storyboarding, Heuristic Evaluation, Keystroke-Level Modeling, Affinity Diagramming

EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University, December 2011

Master of Human-Computer Interaction

University of Pittsburgh, May 2008

Bachelor of Science in Psychology