

# Kenny Foner

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Location: **Philadelphia, PA** Pronouns: **they/them/their**

## ★ WHO AM I?

I'm a **functional programmer** and a **programming languages researcher**—I delight in building practical tools from meaningful theory to make a positive difference for programmers and for the world.

- ★ I love making compilers, type systems, testing tools, domain-specific languages, static analyses...
- ★ I enjoy programming in Haskell, Rust, OCaml, Coq, Clojure, Lisp, Dafny, Cryptol, Racket...
- ★ As a PL researcher, my formal background and broad experience give me the perspective to quickly become proficient in new languages and paradigms—and I'm excited by opportunities to do so!

## ★ EDUCATION

**University of Pennsylvania** (Philadelphia, PA) May 2018  
Master of Science in Engineering in Computer and Information Science  
Advised by Dr. Stephanie C. Weirich

**Brandeis University** (Waltham, MA) May 2015  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science *summa cum laude* with highest departmental honors  
Thesis: *Getting a Quick Fix on Comonads*, advised by Dr. Harry G. Mairson

## ★ EXPERIENCE

**Galois** (Arlington, VA/Remote) 2018 – present  
SOFTWARE ENGINEER/RESEARCHER

Work on multiple projects: collaborating directly with clients to implement a custom typed scripting language for high-assurance distributed scripting; contributing new API functionality to the SAW/Cryptol suite of open-source program analysis tools; developing verification tooling for high-assurance election technology.

**Microsoft Research** (Redmond, WA) Summer 2016  
RESEARCH INTERN

Formalized the metatheory of several programming languages as a stress test for the experimental Dafny language/proof-assistant. Designed an intermediate language to succinctly verify a multi-part compilation pipeline. Contributed to Dafny's development, implementing bug fixes and feature improvements.

**Galois** (Portland, OR) Summer 2015  
RESEARCH INTERN

Designed and implemented a semi-interactive heuristic code generation tool which presents a user-friendly interface to the construction and evaluation of formal program equivalence proofs. In a separate project, designed a prototype for a new streaming graph query language.

**Galois** (Portland, OR) Summer 2014  
RESEARCH INTERN

Created embedded domain-specific languages for describing secure distributed computations. Developed an optimizing compiler for a language expressing oblivious secret-sharing protocols, and an efficient bytecode interpreter which was several times faster than the previous best results on a series of established benchmarks.

Prototyped applications and protocols to evaluate experimental frameworks for dynamic information flow control (IFC). Within this framework, developed a secure-by-construction distributed multi-player game as an example application. Contributed to a comparative analysis of IFC frameworks, published in PLAS '14.

## ★ PUBLICATIONS

**ICFP 2018: “Keep Your Laziness in Check.”** [K. Foner](#), H. Zhang, and L. Lampropoulos. In *Proceedings of the 2018 ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Functional Programming*.

**ICFP 2018: “What’s the Difference? A Functional Pearl on Subtracting Bijections.”** B. Yorgey and [K. Foner](#). In *Proceedings of the 2018 ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Functional Programming*.

**Haskell 2017: “Ode on a Random Urn (Functional Pearl).”** L. Lampropoulos, A. Spector-Zabusky, and [K. Foner](#). In *Proceedings of the 2017 ACM SIGPLAN Symposium on Haskell*.

**TyDe 2016: “Choose Your Own Derivative (Extended Abstract).”** J. Paykin, A. Spector-Zabusky, and [K. Foner](#). In *Proceedings of the 2016 ACM SIGPLAN Workshop on Type-Driven Development*.

**Haskell 2015: “Functional Pearl: Getting a Quick Fix on Comonads.”** [K. Foner](#). In *Proceedings of the 2015 ACM SIGPLAN Symposium on Haskell*.

**PLAS 2014: “You Sank My Battleship!: A Case Study in Secure Programming.”** A. Stoughton, A. Johnson, S. Beller, K. Chadha, D. Chen, [K. Foner](#), and M. Zhivich. In *Proceedings of the 2014 ACM Workshop on Programming Languages and Analysis for Security*.

## ★ TEACHING

**Teaching Assistant** for CIS 552: Advanced Programming (HASKELL) Spring 2017  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA (Philadelphia, PA)

**Teaching Assistant** for CIS 500: Software Foundations (COQ) Fall 2016  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA (Philadelphia, PA)

**Course Instructor** for COSI 98: Introduction to Programming (HASKELL) Spring 2015  
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY (Waltham, MA)

**Teaching Assistant** for COSI 21b: Structure & Interpretation of Computer Programs (SCHEME) Spring 2013, 2014  
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY (Waltham, MA)

## ★ PRESENTATIONS

**ICFP 2018:** “Keep Your Laziness in Check.”

**C<sub>o</sub>mp<sub>o</sub>se NYC 2017:** “Choose Your Own Derivative.”

**C<sub>o</sub>mp<sub>o</sub>se NYC 2016:** “There and Back Again and What Happened After.”

**Haskell Symposium 2015:** “Functional Pearl: Getting a Quick Fix on Comonads.”

## ★ AESTHETIC

Cats, clarinet, capsaicin, autumn in Massachusetts, half-tone dissonance, wool socks, dodecahedra, incandescent lights, fluffy little sparrows, purple (#62488F), sourdough bread, train travel, postrock, partly cloudy and 68°F (20°C), stained glass, biking fast, potted succulents, em-dashes (—), the moon, smooth peanut butter, and cats.