

Short Biography

Steven Moran is a PhD student in Computational Linguistics at the University of Washington. He received his M.A. in Linguistics and Language Technology from Eastern Michigan University, where he was a research assistant for The Linguist List. Moran worked directly on the NSF funded E-MELD project from 2001-2005 and was project leader and architect of the E-MELD School of Best Practices, overseeing its design, development and information architecture. His M.A. thesis comprises the first description of Western Sisaala, a Niger-Congo Gur language spoken in Ghana, where Moran spent three months doing linguistic fieldwork. Currently, he is involved in Grammar Engineering and his main research interest is in the development of digital tools to aid field linguistics in language documentation and analysis. To that extent, Moran has recently developed APEC (Automated Phonetic Environment Creator), a tool for generating phone environments and finding minimal pairs in linguistic field data for phonological analysis. APEC's functionality is currently being expanded and it has been accepted for the demo session at the summer E-MELD conference.