

# Waseem Sebastian Daher

## Personal Information

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## Objectives

- To work somewhere intellectually stimulating and challenging, where I'll actually have some impact
- To fill a swimming pool with gold coins and dive into it like Scrooge McDuck in *Duck Tales* (suspending them in Jello or using bills might be the only way to do this non-painfully)

## Education

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology** – *Cambridge, Massachusetts* January 2007 – Present  
 Candidate for Masters of Engineering in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
 Expected to graduate with M.Eng. in June 2008

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology** – *Cambridge, Massachusetts* August 2003 – June 2007  
 B.S. in Course VI-III (Computer Science and Engineering)  
 Undergraduate GPA: 4.8 / 5.0

Oh, and I went to high school, and am happy to regale you with tales of it.

## Work Experience

**OkCupid** – *New York, New York* Summer 2007  
 Helped people meet their true loves online, for free.  
 Added features to the website and developed a Facebook application, all in C++.

**Google** – *Mountain View, California* Summer 2006  
 Worked on distributed cron system, in Java, that manages long-running jobs for Google Checkout.

**Amazon.com** – *Seattle, Washington* Summer 2005  
 Developed system, in Perl, to automate the generation of various “Search Inside The Book” features.  
 Added the “Text Stats / Compared With Other Books” feature to the website.

**America Online** – *Dulles, Virginia* Summer 2004, January 2005  
 Developed automated testing software in Python for an AOL Instant Messenger module.  
 Added peer-to-peer and basic videoconferencing functionality to console-based AIM clients used for debugging and QA.

**MIT Media Laboratory** – *Cambridge, Massachusetts* Spring 2004  
 Worked on improving the accuracy of computer voice recognition of dictated speech by applying software “common sense reasoning” to take into account the context in which words are spoken.  
 Co-author of paper in 2005 International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces.

## Projects

**Guido van Robot** – <http://gvr.sf.net/>  
 A programming language environment, written in Python, designed to teach the fundamentals of programming to first-time programmers. Currently used in a number of high school computer science classes across the country, and internationalized in several languages.

**libgmail** – <http://libgmail.sf.net/>  
 Python library that exposes Gmail functionality to developers – while not the original author, I maintain the codebase, fix showstopper bugs, and add features every now and then.

**PenPal** – <http://web.mit.edu/wdaher/www/penpal/>  
 Solving Gary Blehm's “Identical Penmen” poster.

## Skills

- Experienced with Python, Java, Scheme, basic GNU/Linux, SQL
- Familiar with the basics of Perl, LaTeX, C, though by no means the world's expert
- Quick learner, strong leadership skills, works well in groups
- Moderately proficient in French, basic Arabic reading/writing/speaking
- Licensed film projectionist in the state of Massachusetts