

# Robin R. Fowler

(formerly Robin R. Roots)

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## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Philosophy**, Educational Psychology and Educational Technology, Michigan State University, expected 2014.

**Dissertation Title: TBD**

**Doctor of Philosophy (coursework only)**, Second Language Studies, Michigan State University, 2003-2006.

**Areas of Study:** Working memory and second language assessment, psycholinguistics, attention and language learning.

**Master of Arts**, Critical Studies in the Teaching of English, Michigan State University, 2003.

**Areas of Study:** Writing Across the Curriculum, critical pedagogy, second language writing, writing centers.

**Bachelor of Science**, Cognitive Psychology, Michigan State University, 2001.

**Areas of Study:** Language processing, learning and memory.

## TEACHING

**Lecturer III** (August 2007-April 2011) and **Lecturer IV** (April 2011-present), Program in Technical Communication, University of Michigan College of Engineering.

- Technical Communication Lead Instructor, ENGIN 100 ("Introduction to Engineering," various subtopics), Fall 2008-present
- Discussion leader, ENGIN 100 ("Introduction to Engineering," various subtopics), Fall 2007-Winter 2010
- Grader, ME 495 ("Laboratory in Mechanical Engineering"), Fall 2007-Winter 2010
- Instructor, TC 300 ("Technical Communication for Electrical Engineering and Computer Science"), Fall 2007, Fall 2008, and Fall 2009
- Tutor, TC 610 ("Dissertation Writing"), Fall 2007, Fall 2008, and Fall 2009

**Instructor**, MI-LSAMP (Michigan—Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program), University of Michigan, Summer 2008 and Summer 2009

- Developed and taught technical communication portion of summer course for small group of incoming college students enrolled in bridge program.

**Writing Consultant and Graduate Supervisor**, Michigan State University Writing Center, January 2007-August 2007 and August 2001-December 2005.

- Consulted one-on-one with MSU students and faculty on a variety of writing projects from across the curriculum
- Developed, coordinated, and presented seminars on a variety of writing-related topics, including peer review, plagiarism, composing in PowerPoint, and creating web pages, for MSU courses
- Trained undergraduates to provide feedback to writing center clients in an "alternative preparation" course
- Designed and conducted series of workshops on a variety of topics, including

science writing and working with English language learners, for writing center employees

**Instructor**, Michigan State University English Language Center, Summer 2008, January 2005-August 2006.

- Listening & Speaking 4-week summer program
- Integrated Skills, Level 3
- Listening & Speaking, Level 5 (team-taught with Hien Huynh and Kari Richards)

**Adjunct Faculty**, English Department, Lansing Community College, January 2003-December 2004.

- Writing about Literature (both online and face to face)
- Children's Literature

**Teaching Assistant**, Psychology Department, Michigan State University, January 2000-May 2000, January 2001-May 2001.

- Introduction to Cognitive Psychology (with Dr. Bruce Burns)

## RESEARCH

**Mentor for undergraduate research assistants**, Michigan State University Child Language Acquisition Lab, Dr. Cristina Schmitt, January 2007-August 2007.

- Guided students through hypothesis generation, variable identification, and task design and implementation
- Guided students through data analysis and write-up
- Conducted weekly update meetings

**Research assistant**, MSU Second Language Studies Program, Dr. Susan Gass, January 2005-December 2006.

- Worked in a team with Dr. Gass and a fellow student, Junkyu Lee, on a project testing language learners' working memory scores
- Generated hypotheses, identified variables, designed task and programmed in E-Prime, and implemented research study
- Presented research findings in format appropriate for broad audience

**Research assistant**, MSU Eyelab, Dr. Fernanda Ferreira, August 1996-May 2001.

- Assisted with hypothesis generation, variable identification, task design, and implementation of research studies of language parsing
- Collected data using dual-purkinje eye-tracking equipment

**Researcher**, Undergraduate Honors Thesis, MSU Department of Psychology

- Advisors: Dr. Alan Beretta, Dr. Fernanda Ferreira, and Dr. James Zacks
- Title: Online sentence processing by Broca's Aphasics: The role of determiners.

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Pinto, A., Guest, J., **Roots, R.**, Love, N., & Skerlos, S. (2009, July). *A project-based active learning framework to introduce freshman engineering students to sustainable waste management and waste-to-energy technologies*. Paper presented at the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors meeting, Iowa City, IA.

- Lai, C., Fei, F., & **Roots**, R. (2008). The contingency of recasts and noticing. *CALICO*, 26(1), 70-90. **Awarded "OUTSTANDING PAPER of 2008-2009" Award.**
- Gass, S., Lee, J., & **Roots**, R. (2007). Firth and Wagner: New ideas or a new articulation? *The Modern Language Journal*, 91(s1), 788-799.
- Lai, C., Fei, F., & **Roots**, R. (2007, April). *Intensity of recasts and noticing during an online interactive activity*. Paper presented at the American Association of Applied Linguistics Annual Conference, Costa Mesa, CA.
- Roots**, R. (2006, October). *Proficiency affects recall in L1 and L2 working memory measurement*. Paper presented at the Second Language Research Forum, Seattle, WA.
- Gass, S., **Roots**, R., & Lee, J. (2006, September). *Inhibition and working memory capacity in a second language*. Paper presented at the European Second Language Association Conference, Antalya, Turkey.
- Roots**, R. (2006). The neurobiology of learning: Perspectives from second language acquisition (book review). *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, 128(4), 643-645.
- Lai, C., & **Roots**, R. (2006, June). *What factors affect the noticing of recast in online chat?* Paper presented at the Joint Conference of the American Association of Applied Linguistics and The Association Canadienne de Linguistique Appliquée, Montreal, CA.
- Roots**, R., & Richards, K. (2005, November). *Podcasting as a tool in the ESL classroom*. Paper presented at the Michigan Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Conference, East Lansing, MI.
- Roots**, R. (2005, May). *Undergraduate psychology education in the United States*. Invited talk given at Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Saltillo, Mexico.
- Roots**, R. (2005). Image, inquiry, and transformative practice: Engaging learners in creative and critical inquiry through visual representation (book review). *Computers and Composition Online*, 22(3), Retrieved April 25, 2008 from [http://www.bgsu.edu/cconline/reviews/root\\_review.htm](http://www.bgsu.edu/cconline/reviews/root_review.htm).
- Roots**, R., & Sheffield, S. (2004, November). *ESL training: What do tutors need to know?* Workshop presented at the Michigan Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Sheffield, S., & **Roots**, R. (2004, October). *Tutor training: Preparing consultants to work with ESL writers*. Paper presented at the Michigan Writing Centers' Association Idea Exchange, Lansing, MI.
- Roots**, R. (2004, October). *Subversive English? Why I teach my students to jump through hoops*. Paper presented at the Spring Conference on the Language Arts, East Lansing, MI.

- Sarann, P., & **Roots**, R. (2003, October). *Plagiarism, peer collaboration, or peer collusion? An insider's look at outsiders' perspectives*. Paper presented at the International Writing Centers' Association Conference, Hershey, PA.
- Roots**, R. (2003, March). *Plagiarism, politics, and the writing center*. Paper presented at the East Central Writing Center Association Conference, Marietta, OH.
- Roots**, R. (2001, March). *Resolution of ambiguity in center-embedded sentences*. Poster presented at the CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Philadelphia, PA.
- Roots**, R. (2000, April). *From firing neurons to communication: The role of Broca's Area in linguistic competence*. Paper presented at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Forum, East Lansing, MI. Awarded first prize in the Social Sciences category.

## AWARDS

- Teaching with Technology Institute Awardee**, University of Michigan, 2011.
- Outstanding Article, 2008-2009, CALICO Journal**, for "The Contingency and Noticing of Recasts" with Chun Lai and Fei Fei, 2010.
- Teaching Incentive Grant**, Lansing Community College, for development of peer review system for online writing course, 2004.
- Outstanding Faculty Contribution Award** (with other faculty in English department for assessment work), Lansing Community College, 2003.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT and SERVICE

- Member (November 2007-May 2010) and Co-chair (May 2010-present) of the Curriculum Committee**, Program in Technical Communication at the University of Michigan.
- Member**, Engineering 100 Steering Committee, College of Engineering, University of Michigan, August 2010-present.
- Member**, American Society for Engineering Education, Spring 2008-present.
- Judge**, Ethics Communication, 2010 ASCE North Central Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.
- Judge**, George M. Landes Prize for Technical Communication, 2008-present.
- Judge**, Southeast Michigan K-12 science fair, Washtenaw Community College, March 2008 and 2009.
- Communication advisor**, University of Michigan Human-Powered Submarine Team, April 2009-present.
- Rater**, MSU SPEAK test (holistic scoring of second language speech samples from prospective teaching assistants), August 2007-present.
- Reviewer**, *Language Learning and Technology, International Journal of Engineering Education (Special Issue on Applications of Engineering Education Research)*, 2010 American Society for Engineering Education Conference Abstracts.
- Organizer of Cognitive Reading Groups**, MSU Second Language Studies Program, November 2005-May 2007.

**Assistant editor for book reviews**, *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, August 2005-December 2006.

**Member of steering committee and abstract reader**, Spring Conference on the Language Arts, East Lansing, MI, January-April 2005.

**Online Instructor Training**, Michigan Virtual University, 2004.