

Ben's qualifications and many years of work experience lie in two disciplines: Dance Movement Therapy (Since 1992) and Computer Science (Since 1980). More recently, he has completed his PhD research degree in the school of Computer Science at the University of Hertfordshire, bringing together his expertise and experience in these two disciplines.

1 Career Summary

Ben started his career working as an Analyst Programmer for an international software house specialising in communication and message switching systems. He then moved on to work for banks in the City of London as a Systems Analyst, supporting message switching systems internationally. Later on Ben then took a managerial post outside the IT sector and managed a large private estate for 8 years. Ben then returned to university to broaden his knowledge of IT. He studied for his Masters Degree in Computer Science and joined his latest employer – Logica UK as an IT consultant, on completion of his studies in October 1998. After working in a diversity of projects for over 3 years, Ben left Logica to pursue a research and a scientific career. In October 2002 he enrolled as a full time PhD student to the University of Hertfordshire, Faculty of Engineering and Information Science, School of Computer Science, and at the same time was working at the university as a lecturer. After completing his PhD in September 2005, Ben continued his post at the university as Associate lecturer/Research Fellow, later to become a full time research scientist as a senior research fellow.

2 Career History

Feb 2007 - to date – Senior Research Fellow - University of Hertfordshire

Sept 2005 - to-Feb 2007 - Associate Lecturer / Research Fellow - University of Hertfordshire

Oct 2002 – to Sept 2005 - PhD Research in Computer Science - University of Hertfordshire

1998 - 2002 Consultant - Logica (UK) - various projects. Examples:

Solution Designer – BT project for IP solutions and product offerings.

Test Team Leader – G-Mobile project, internet shopping applications for a major mobile phone service provider

Test Manager – Vodacom project for another a mobile phone service provider in South Africa.

SAP Integration and Procedure testing – for a major mobile phone service provider.

1997-1998 -MSc Degree Course Computer Science

As the final year project Ben developed a prototype flight simulator for pilots to train in instrument flying procedures using C++ and OO methodology.

1988-1996 -Estate Manager - Eminent Production

Ben was the Estate Manager of a 30 acre private estate in Essex where he held overall surveillance and responsibility for all the administrative, maintenance and personnel requirements.

1986-1988 -Senior System Analyst - Bank of America , London

Ben provided maintenance and support for the Bank's message switching system to all its European branches

1984-1986- Communication Support Analyst - Societe Generale Bank, London

Ben was the main person to provide support and maintenance for the Bank's communication message switching system .

1981-1984- Developer, Customer support analyst - Manof Systems – Tel-Aviv

Ben started as a developer, and then moved to provide support to customers both for home and international markets, of the Manof's Message Switching system.

3 Education

- PhD research degree in Computer Science - University of Hertfordshire (UK). Title: 'A humanoid Robot as assistive technology for Encouraging Social Interaction Skills in children with autism
- MSc Computer Science - University of Hertfordshire (UK) - graduated 1998.
- Post Graduate Diploma Dance Movement Therapy – St Albans College of art and design.(UK)- 1992
- BA Combined studies Middlesex University (UK) - 1990.
- Practical Engineering Diploma -computer science - Negev University (Israel) - 1980

4 Interest and hobbies

Ben was able to pursue his other interests and hobbies. Ben learnt to fly, became a light aircraft pilot and joined a flying club. He occasionally flies on short trips.