

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Odest Jenkins

PERSON

Jenkins, Odest , 1974-

Alternative Names: Jenkins, Odest , 1974-;

Life Dates: January 9, 1974-

Place of Birth: Washington, D.C., District of Columbia

Residence:

Occupations: Engineer; Computer Scientist

Biographical Note

Computer scientist Odest Chadwicke Jenkins was born on January 9, 1974 in Washington, District of Columbia. Jenkins attended Alma College where he graduated with his B.S. degrees in computer science and mathematics in 1996. He enrolled in graduate school at Georgia Technical Institute and received his M.S. degree in computer science in 1998. There, he worked as a graduate research and teaching assistant. Jenkins went on to attend the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, where earned his Ph.D. degree in computer science in 2003.

Upon graduating, Jenkins was awarded a postdoctoral research grant in the computer science department at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. In 2004, Jenkins joined the faculty in the department of computer science at Brown University as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 2010. Jenkins is the leader of the Robotics, Learning and Autonomy Group at Brown University. The group explores topics related to human-robot interactions and robot learning with a specific focus on robot learning from human demonstration and robot software systems. Jenkins works with Brown University faculty and graduate students to develop methods for autonomous robot control and perception. In 2011, Jenkins worked to develop the “PR2 Remote Lab,” a remote-controlled computer

laboratory designed to promote collaborative research and documentation.

Jenkins' research has been published in numerous scholarly and professional journals, including "Human-Robot Interaction," "Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition". In 2010, Jenkins published "Creating Games: Mechanics, Content, and Technology". He also served on the editorial board for "International Journal of Robotics Research," and the "International Journal of Humanoid Robotics".

Jenkins is a recipient of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers for his work in physics-based human tracking from video. In 2009, Jenkins was the recipient of the Sloan Research Fellowship, and was selected as the National Academy of Science's Kavi Fellow. He has received research funding from the Office of Naval Research and the National Science Foundation. In 2010, Popular Science Magazine named Jenkins one of their "Brilliant 10." Jenkins lives in Providence Massachusetts.

Odest Chadwicke Jenkins was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on November 8, 2012.

Related Entries

Charles, Odest [CHILD OF]

Father

Jenkins, Nadine Francis [SIBLING OF]

Sister

University of Southern California [STUDENT OF]

[from ? to 2003-12]

Ph.D.

Alma College [STUDENT OF]

[from ? to 1996]

B.S. in Computer Science and Mathematics

Georgia Institute of Technology [STUDENT OF]

[from ? to 1998]

M.S. in Computer Science

Ford Systems Integration Center [EMPLOYEE OF]

[from 1994-05 to 1994-08]

Systems Intern

Intel Corporation [EMPLOYEE OF]

[from 1997-06 to 1997-08]

CAD Engineer

Brown University [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2010-07 to 2012]

Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science

Georgia Institute of Technology [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1997-08 to 1998-06]

Graduate Teaching Assistant, College of Computing

University of Southern California [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2003-10 to 2001-06]

Postdoctoral Researcher

PRISM Lab [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1994-05 to 1994-08]

Undergraduate Research Intern, Computer Science Engineering

Alma College [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1996 to ?]

Resident Assistant