

Ray Toal

Professor and Interim Chair of Computer Science at Loyola Marymount University

Los Angeles, CA, US

Seaver College of Science and Engineering

Biography

Ray Toal is Professor of Computer Science at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles where he has been teaching since 1986 and is currently serving as chair of the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science department. He received his Ph.D. from UCLA in 1993 in semantics, with minors in theoretical computer science and database systems. His current research interests are in programming language design, compilers, APIs, and large scale infrastructure. He has consulted for a number of companies in the Los Angeles area, including Citysearch/CityGrid, Medaxis, Friendbuy, Handmade Mobile, M-GO, and Criteo. Ray has authored three books on programming languages and has been involved with projects at the Human Advancement Research Community (HARC).
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Industry Expertise

Research, Training and Development, Social Media, Computer Software

Areas of Expertise

Computer Science, Programming Languages, Compilers and Interpreters, Software Architecture, Database Systems

Affiliations

ACM, HARC

Sample Talks

Tony Hoare's CSP: The Old School Version

A walk through of the original Communicating Sequential Processes paper, and a look at how the principles are used in modern languages like Go and Erlang.

Are Modern Programming Languages Easier to Learn?

A look at the degree to which six modern programming languages follow the principles of effective learnable programming set out by Bret Victor in a 2012 essay.

Economics of Open Source Software

If it's free, why it is so popular?

Education

University of California, Los Angeles
Ph.D. Computer Science

Loyola Marymount University
M.S. Computer Science

Loyola Marymount University
B.S. Computer Science

Accomplishments

California Professor of the Year

Recipient of the 2008 California state award from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's U.S. Professors of the Year Awards Program.

Fritz B. Burns Distinguished Teaching Award

Recipient of LMU's annual teaching award in 2006.

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