

# Roberto Perez-Franco

## Personal and Contact Information

Born April 26, 1976 in Chitre, Panama. Panamanian citizen. Married, one child. Mobile: 857-233-6098. E-mail: roberto@mit.edu. Website: <http://roberto.mit.edu>. Mailing address: E40-222, 77 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 20139.

## Education

Sep/2006 – Jun/2010 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Engineering Systems Division (ESD). PhD in Engineering Systems, Supply Chain Management. GPA: 5.0/5.0. Focus: Supply Chain Strategy.

Sep/2003 – Jun/2004 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Center for Transportation and Logistics (CTL). Master of Engineering in Logistics and Supply Chain Management (formerly known as MLOG, currently called SCM Program). GPA: 4.9/5.0.

Mar/1995 – Jun/2001 Panama Technological University (UTP). Bachelor of Science in Engineering. Areas: Electrical and Mechanical. Graduated Valedictorian. GPA: 2.78/3.0.

## Awards / Scholarships

- 2010 – Named Outstanding Young Person by JCI Panama, in Leadership/Academic area.
- 2008 – Named UTP's Distinguished Alumnus Award, in the area of Social Responsibility.
- 2008 – Awarded the UPS Doctoral Fellowship, at MIT's Engineering Systems Division.
- 2006 – Receives the SENACYT-IFARHU Scholarship, for Doctoral studies.
- 2005 – Wins the National Short-Fiction Award *Jose Maria Sanchez* (Panama).
- 2003 – Given Fulbright Scholarship, for Masters. Ranked 1st among 225 applicants.
- 2003 – Receives the Barsa Scholarship, for Masters studies.
- 2000 – Awarded 1st place in the IEEE Student Paper Contest for Latin America.
- 1999 – Named 'Meritorious Son' by hometown, La Villa de Los Santos (Panama).
- 1996 – Receives IFARHU Scholarship, for Bachelor studies.
- 1993 – Awarded "Best Participation" in Workshop for the Development of Young Leaders.
- 1992 – Finished 1st among public high-schools in 1st Panamanian Physics Olympics.
- 1992 – Receives 3 mentions in the National Photography Contest *Carlos Endara* (Panama).

## Published Theses

2010 – *"A Methodology to Capture, Evaluate and Reformulate a Firm's Supply Chain Strategy as a Conceptual System."* Doctoral thesis at MIT. Advisor: Dr. Yossi Sheffi.

2004 – *"A Decision-Support Model for Managing the Fuel Inventory of a Panamanian Generating Company"*. Master thesis at MIT. Advisor: Dr. Stephen Graves. Grade: A

2001 - *"Symbulator: a linear circuit simulator for calculators."* Undergraduate thesis at UTP. Advisor: Prof. Medardo Logreira. The thesis received 100/100 from all members of the tribunal.

## Technical Presentations

2010 – *"A Methodology to Capture, Evaluate and Reformulate a Firm's Supply Chain Strategy as a Conceptual System."* Doctoral dissertation defense. May 18, 2010. MIT, Boston, MA.

2009 – *"Making Explicit the 'As Is' Supply-Chain Strategy of a Firm."* 2009 POMS Conference. May 1-4, 2009. Orlando, FL.

2005 – *"Logistics and Supply Chain Management"*. Presentation at the 2005 Industrial Engineering Congress, Panama City. Organized by Panama Technological University.

2005 – *"Introduction to Logistics"*. Presentation at the Logistics Seminar, Chitre (Panama). Organized by Panama Technological University and Panama Logistics Club.

2001 – *"Symbolator Q: symbolic circuit simulator"*. Presentation at the Automation & Control Congress, Panama City. Organized by Panama Technological University.

## Teaching Experience

July 2010 – Center for Latin-American Logistics Innovation (CLI). Co-creator and co-instructor of the Supply Chain Strategy class of the Graduate Certificate in Global Logistics & Supply Chain Management (GC-LOG) program. Bogotá, Colombia. This was the first class in the GC-LOG program to receive the maximum possible evaluation from students (100%) in all areas.

Fall 2009 – Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Co-creator and co-instructor of a new Supply Chain Strategy class, based entirely on material created by the instructors. Received the fourth highest evaluation among the ~100 classes taught at the Engineering Systems Division (ESD).

Fall 2008 – Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Teaching Assistant for the Logistics Systems course (ESD.260) taught by Dr Chris Caplice. This is a required class for MLOG students.

2003 - 2005. Kaplan Edutech Panama. Math instructor for GMAT, GRE and SAT tests.

## Work Experience

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology.** (06/01/2010 – Present) Title: Postdoctoral Associate.

**Garner Panama Services Corp.** (06/14/2005 – 01/15/2006) Title: Operations and Logistics Manager. Garner Panama is the Central-American branch of Garner Global, an emergency response company, based in Texas. Its services encompass activities from training courses for first responders, to emergency response to oil spills and natural disasters. Working under the direct supervision of the President of the company, I managed our training projects in Panama. For our first training contract (\$110K), the customer was the Panama Canal Authority. Under my responsibility, this training was completed successfully. I also worked alongside consultants in the development of new projects in Panama, including one for a plant of Biodiesel.

**Panama Canal Authority.** (11/16/2004 - 06/11/2005) Title: Multidisciplinary Engineer. The Panama Canal Authority is a state-owned enterprise that manages and operates the Panama Canal since 2000. With 9,000 employees, it is the largest company in Panama. In the Dredging Division, I performed general engineering tasks in the fields of electrical, mechanical and industrial engineering. I participated in the project to replace all the GPS units of the Division.

***Carnes de Coclé SA.*** (08/02/2004 - 11/12/2004.) Title: Operations and Logistics Assistant Manager. Carnes de Coclé SA is Panama's largest meat processing company. As Assistant Manager for Operations and Logistics, I worked in the reverse-logistics of the plastic bins used to move the meat products between plants, warehouses and final customers. I was able to improve the accuracy of the bin accounting procedures by a factor of five.

***Bahia Las Minas Corp.*** (08/01/2000 - 06/26/2003.) Title: Contracts Manager. Company Bahia Las Minas Corp. (BLM) was back then the largest fuel-powered generation company in Central America. It generates electricity and trades both energy and capacity in the spot and contract power markets in Panama. I calculated the revenues and profit from sales, and prepared income forecasts. I prepared energy contract bids and determined daily spot prices for capacity auctions. While managing power contracts with an annual revenue of \$120 million, I reduced the end-of-month revenue estimate error from 1% to 0.1%. I developed from scratch a new database for the Marketing Department, using exclusively free, open-source software such as MySQL.

***Intelectra.*** (2002 - 2005) Title: Owner. Intelectra is a small business, based in my apartment, that I started in 2002. It imports and sales advanced calculators for college students in Panama. From January 2002 to August 2003, I was the exclusive representative in Panama of Districalc, a major player in the Latin American calculator market, for Texas Instruments calculators.

### **Affiliations**

*Professional:* Founder and former Coordinator of Panama Logistics Club (PanLog). Former student member of the Council of Logistics Management (CLM), the Productions and Operations Management Society (POMS), the MIT Supply-Chain Management Club and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

*Non-professional:* Founder and former official of Panama Writer's Association (ADEP) and the Azuero Writer's Circle. Member of Mensa, ISPE and Triple Nine. Delegate of the Universal Esperanto Association.

### **IT Skills**

Microsoft Office: Access, Word, Excel (Solver and macros), Power Point. SQL experience, including MySQL and Access relational databases. Webmaster experience, including HTML, CSS and PHP. Programming experience with Visual Basic for Applications. Windows XP, Vista and 7. Linux Ubuntu. AutoCAD in 2D and 3D. OpenOffice, Apache, Matlab, TKSolver.

### **Extra-curricular activities**

Five short-fiction collections published. Selected stories have been published in eight anthologies. Study of pre-Columbian solar calendars carved in stone in Panama. Painting in watercolor and gouache. Photography. Classical music, chess, Linux, Esperanto.

**Languages:** Spanish as native. Fluent in English. Very basic knowledge of French.

**Licenses:** Certified English-Spanish Translator (officially authorized to work as such in Panama).