



Visiting Professor Dr. **Gary S. Stager**

Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education & Psychology,
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Gary Stager is one of the world's leading experts and advocates for computer programming, robotics and learning-by-doing in classrooms. In 1990, Dr. Stager led professional development in the world's first laptop schools and played a major role in the early days of online education. In addition to being a popular keynote speaker at some of the world's most prestigious education conferences, Gary is a journalist, teacher educator, consultant, professor, software developer, publisher, and school administrator. An elementary teacher by training, he has taught students from preschool through doctoral studies. Dr. Stager is the also founder of the [Constructing Modern Knowledge](#) summer institute for educators.

Dr. Stager is co-author of [Invent To Learn – Making, Tinkering, and Engineering in the Classroom](#), called the “bible of the maker movement in schools,” by Larry Magid of CBS and The San Jose Mercury News.

When Jean Piaget wanted to better understand how children learn mathematics, he hired Seymour Papert. When Dr. Papert wanted to create a high-tech alternative learning environment for incarcerated at-risk teens, he hired Gary Stager. This work was the basis for Gary's doctoral dissertation and documented Papert's most-recent institutional research project. When not on the road speaking or consulting, Dr. Stager spent the past two years as the Special Assistant to the Head of School for Innovation at The Willows Community School in Culver City, California.

Dr. Stager's work has earned a Ph.D. in Science and Mathematics Education and a Grammy Award.

Gary is also on the advisory board of the NSF-funded project, [BJC4NYC: Bringing a Rigorous Computer Science Principles Course to the Largest School System in the US](#).