



Workshop

Robot Competitions: What Did We Learn?

Organisers: Jorge Dias, Kaspar Althoefer, Pedro Lima

http://ap.isr.uc.pt/events/WSCompetitions_iros2015/



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Objectives

This workshop aims to review past robot competitions and to find out what can be learnt from such competitions and to what extent these competitions underpin and further robot research.



Outcomes

1. The workshop will attempt to create guidelines for future robot competitions and how those can be improved so that tangible results useful for future research and technological development.
2. Synergies that will arise from robotic competitions for education, for the advance of modern robots and robotic technologies and/or to promote practical applications, such as rehabilitation, medical robotics, care of the elderly, search and rescue, factories of the future, etc.



PROGRAM

08:30 - 08:40: Participants reception and Welcome Session

08:40 – 10:30: Organizing a Competition – Benefits, Lessons and Errors

- 08:40 - “RoboCup: Insights on Its Success and Challenges”, Manuela Veloso, CMU, USA
- 09:00 – “RoCKIn: the Journey So Far and the Upcoming Final Competition”, Pedro U. Lima, Instituto Superior Técnico, U. Lisboa, Portugal
- 09:20 - “EuRoC: European Robotics Challenges”, Rainer Bischoff, KUKA Roboter, Germany
- 09:40 - Alan Winfield, UWE Bristol, UK – “euRathlon: An Outdoor Robotics Challenge for Land, Sea and Air”

10:00 - 10:30: Coffee Break

10:30 - 12:00 : New Initiatives on International Robotic Challenges

- 10:30 - “CYBATHLON: Championship for Athletes with Disabilities”, R. Riener, ETHZ, Switzerland
- 11:00 - “MBZIRC: The Mohamed Bin Zayed International Robotics Challenge”, Lakmal Seneviratne, Khalifa University, UAE – “
- 11:30 - "Future Challenges: Designing ICT Prizes for Europe", Emanuele Ruffaldi, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy

12:00 - 12:45 : Panel Discussion (debate on Impact (cost/benefit) of Robot Competition and Challenge Initiatives) – with all speakers

12:45 : Workshop Closure



INTEND TO ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. What is the impact of robot competitions on Robotics research?
2. Is there evidence that robot competitions accelerate robot technology an innovation ?
3. Are robot competitions useful tools to train early-career roboticists?
4. Are robot competitions successful in bringing younger people to the field of Engineering and Robotics?
5. Are robot competitions a good tool in promoting robotics to lay people / the public? Can more be done to improve on the current state?





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