ICSR2013 Theme: COMPANIONSHIP

The International Conference on Social Robotics (ICSR) brings together researchers and practitioners working on the interaction between humans and robots and on the integration of robots into our society. The theme of the 2013 conference is ‘COMPANIONSHIP’. Robots will improve quality of human life through assistance, enabling for instance independent living or providing support in work-intensive, difficult and possibly complex situations. The conference aims to foster discussion on the development of computational models, robotic embodiment, and behaviour that enable social robots to have an impact on the degree of companionship with humans.

The conference welcomes original contributions describing technically rigorous scientific and philosophical advances in the area of social robotics: Innovative ideas and concepts, new discoveries and improvements, novel applications on the latest fundamental advances in the core technologies that form the backbone of social robotics, distinguished developmental projects, as well as seminal works in aesthetic design, ethics and philosophy, studies on social impact and influence pertaining to social robotics, and its interaction and communication with human beings and its social impact on our society.

The topics of interest include, but are not limited to the following:
- Interaction and collaboration among robots, humans, and environments
- Robots to assist the elderly and persons with disabilities
- Socially assistive robots to improve quality of life
- Affective and cognitive sciences for socially interactive robots
- Personal robots for the home
- Social acceptance and impact in the society
- Robot ethics in human society
- Context awareness, expectation, and intention understanding
- Control architectures for social robotics
- Socially appealing design methodologies
- Safety in robots working in human spaces
- Human augmentation, rehabilitation, and medical robots
- Robot applications in education, entertainment, and gaming

**IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES**

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<td>Regular/Invited Paper Submission</td>
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<td>Demonstration Proposal Submission</td>
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**SUBMISSION OF PAPERS**

Submissions must be made in the PDF format and follow the Springer LNCS/LNAI style for the layout. LNCS style templates are available on the Springer LCNS website. Full papers are limited to ten A4 size pages, extended abstracts to two A4 pages. Detailed instructions for paper submission are available at [http://www.icsr2013.org.uk](http://www.icsr2013.org.uk). All papers will be refereed by the program committee.

**EXHIBITIONS**

Participants who would like to exhibit their interactive demonstrations at the conference site please prepare 1 page summary about the demonstration and email secretary.icsr2013@brl.ac.uk. Exhibition booth will be allocated to demonstrations approved by the ICSR2013 organizing committee.

**WORKSHOP**

Participants are invited to hold a full/half day workshop on 27 October 2013 on a topic relevant to social robotics and the general theme ‘COMPANIONSHIP’. Outlines of intended workshops are to be submitted by 21 August 2013.

**COMPETITIONS**

**Robot Design Competition**: A search for creative ideas about what a robot companion could be. This year we are accepting designs from practitioners from any discipline, and in any format. Selected designs, prototypes, performances or demos will be invited for exhibited at the conference.

**NAO Robot Competition**: a technical competition sponsored and organized by Aldebaran will ask technical buffs to create a very specific solution for the NAO as a modern robot companion.

For both competitions prizes will be awarded.