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Biologically Inspired Intelligent Robotics

Organized by Yoseph Bar-Cohen, Jet Propulsion Lab; Cynthia Breazeal, MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory; David Hanson, University of Texas-Dallas

This symposium will profile recent advances and trends in Biomimetics, that is, the emulation of life using robotic machines. The field of Biomimetics has blossomed in recent years. Combining enormous advances in machine intelligence, materials science, and biological science's understanding of life's wondrous mechanisms, Biomimetics and its sibling, Integrative Biology, have allowed scientists and engineers to reverse engineer many of animals' functional systems, and to implement these systems technologically. This interdisciplinary work has resulted in machines that can recognize facial expressions, understand speech, and locomote in robust bipedal gaits similar to humans. Additionally, advances in polymer sciences have resulted in Electroactive Polymer (EAP) Actuators that show functional characteristics remarkably similar to biological muscle tissue. The accelerating pace of change in these fields seems to make evident that the emergence of machines as our peers is imminent. Although this topic brings with it enormous implications including but not limited to questions regarding the nature of evolution and its role in technological progression, this symposium will focus primarily on current developments in the field and its related disciplines. Fields of interest include Artificial Intelligence, Psychology of Biomimetic Robots, Integrative Biology, and Biomimetic Animated Creatures and Artificial Life, Functionality Elements of Biomimetic Robots, and Applications for Biologically Inspired Intelligent Robotics.

Speakers		Status
Contact	1 Yoseph Bar-Cohen, Jet Propulsion Lab	Accepted
Organizer	I Yoseph Bar-Cohen, Jet Propulsion Lab	Accepted
Coorganizer	I Cynthia Breazeal, MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory	Accepted
Coorganizer	2 David Hanson, University of Texas-Dallas	Accepted
Speaker	1 Yoseph Bar-Cohen, Jet Propulsion Lab	Invited
	Engineering Robotic Life	
Speaker	2 Cynthia Breazeal, MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory	Invited
	Psychology and Intelligence of Biomimetic Robots	
Speaker	3 Hsuan Chang, Honda R&D	Invited
	Humanoid Machinery	

If a participant's name is followed by the word "INVITED", either confirm or decline them on this report.
Participants with "INVITED" status will be listed as "Invited" in the marketing materials.

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FRIDAY, JUNE: 28, 2002