Call for Papers and Contributions:

Full-Day Workshop on Roboethics

A workshop at:
ICRA 2009 (www.icra2009.org)
Sunday, May 17th, 2009
Kobe, JAPAN

URL: www.roboethics.org/icra2009

Robotics research is increasingly raising ethical issues, related to the emerging interactions between robots and humans. Roboethics deals with the ethical aspects of the design, development and employment of Intelligent Machines. It shares many "sensitive areas" with Computer Ethics, Information Ethics and Bioethics. Along these disciplines, it investigates the social and ethical problems due to the effects of the Second and Third Industrial Revolutions in the Humans/Machines interaction's domain. The focus of this workshop includes the study of how social, political, and cultural values affect robotics research and robotics application to society. In turn, how robotics affects society, politics, and culture - the basic assumption being that that science and technology are socially embedded. This full-day workshop is open to - and it strongly encourages - the participation of researchers and scholars from other communities, both in science and humanities. This cultural openness provides the robotics researchers with a wide-range intellectual exchange, especially important in the perspective of educating young roboticists to interdisciplinarity among technical disciplines, and to transdisciplinarity among engineering, life science and humanities.

This workshop invites submissions on the following topics (but not limited to):
- Social (Robotics and job market; Cost benefit analysis; etc.);
- Psychological (Robots and kids; Robots and elderly, etc.);
- Legal (Robots and liability; Identification of autonomously acting robots; etc.);
- Medical (Robotics in health care and prosthesis; etc.);
- Warfare application of robotics (Responsibility, International Conventions and Laws; etc.)
- Environment (Cleaning nuclear and toxic waste, Using renewable energies, etc.).

Tentative Submission Schedule:
- January 14, 2009: Abstract Submission deadline
- January 21, 2009: Notification of Acceptance/Rejection
- February 25, 2009: Camera-Ready Submission deadline

Contributed abstracts are limited to 3000 characters, including title, authors, affiliations. Six pages in the standard ICRA format are allowed for each paper, including figures. A maximum of two additional pages is permitted. Prospective authors should submit their contributions electronically in PDF format to the address:

icra2009@roboethics.org

The Workshop is on the initiative of the IEEE-RAS Technical Committee on Roboethics:
Gianmarco Veruggio (CNR-IEIIT, ITALY),
Ron Arkin (Georgia Institute of Technology, USA),
Atsuo Takanishi (Waseda University, JAPAN)
Co-Organizers:
Jorge Solis (Waseda University, JAPAN),
Matthias Scheutz (Indiana University, USA),
Fiorella Operto (School of Robotics, Italy)