Call for Participation: First Inaugural ICRA Ph.D. Forum

ICRA is the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society's flagship conference and is a premier international forum for robotics researchers to present their work. The 2015 conference will be held May 26-30, 2015 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, Washington, USA. We invite Ph.D. students at any level to apply for the ICRA Ph.D. Forum. The Ph.D. Forum provides an opportunity for a group of Ph.D. students to discuss and explore their research interests and career objectives with a panel of established researchers in robotics. The consortium has the following objectives: (1) to provide a setting for mutual feedback on participants’ current research and guidance on future research directions; (2) to develop a supportive community of scholars and a spirit of collaborative research; (3) to support a new generation of researchers by offering advice about academic, research, industrial, and non-traditional career paths; and (4) to contribute to the overall conference goals through interaction with other researchers and participation in conference events.

The Ph.D. Forum will be held as a workshop on May 26, 2015, immediately before the start of the main ICRA conference. Students may apply to participate either as a workshop participant or as a speaker. To be considered as either a workshop participant or as a speaker, applicants should submit the application package as instructed in “Application Instructions”. Students who are selected as speakers will have their 2-page abstracts published in a workshop proceeding.

Important Dates

- **March 30, 2015**: Application Package Submission Deadline
- **April 15, 2015**: Acceptance Notification
- **April 22, 2015**: Camera-Ready Copy of Abstract Deadline
- **May 26, 2015**: Ph.D. Forum

Application Instructions

Applicants to the Ph.D. Forum must submit the following materials to the online application system available on the conference website. Be mindful of the page limits for the components (2-page abstract, 2-page CV).

1. **Application Information.** You will be asked to provide specific information, see icra2015.org for details.

2. **Abstract.** A two-page extended abstract that summarizes your research, highlights important related work, and describes your current results. The abstract MUST be 2 pages, in IEEE ICRA 2-column format, including references.

3. **Curriculum Vita.** Include a CV (at most 2 pages) that describes your background and relevant experience (research, education, employment). Include any publications, if you have any. Also include any pending submissions and journals.

Review Process

The Ph.D. Forum organizing committee solicits applications covering any topic area and methodology within robotics. Applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria: clarity and completeness of submission packet, evidence of research progress (such as published papers and/or technical reports), and assessment of contribution to and benefit from participating in the Ph.D. Forum.

At the Conference

All participants selected to participate at the Ph.D. Forum are expected to be present throughout the forum. Our experience has been that participants gain almost as much by interacting with their peers as by having their presentations critiqued by their faculty mentor. As such, we expect a commitment from participating students to attend the entire Ph.D. Forum. The highlights of the forum can be found at icra2015.org.

Organizers

- Professor Ayanna Howard, Georgia Institute of Technology, Chair
- Jamie Paik, EPFL, Co-Chair
- Hae Won Park, Georgia Institute of Technology, Co-Chair
- Xiaorui Zhu, Harbin Institute of Technology, Co-Chair

Contact: icra2015.phdforum@gmail.com