Lancaster Intelligent, Robotic & Autonomous Systems Centre | Lancaster University

Hello there,

Welcome to the May edition of the LIRA Newsletter. In this month's newsletter, we have details on the newly-revamped UK Robotics Week, now known as the 'Festival of Robotics'. We also have news on work opportunities at Chalmers, plus the latest in our monthly seminar series. As ever, if you have an item you'd like us to include in the newsletter, please do get in touch.

Revamped Festival of Robotics set for June

The newly-renamed UK Festival of Robotics will take place between 19th and 25th June, with online events, competitions and activities for robot enthusiasts of all ages. For more details on the programme, including demonstrations, school competitions and the robotics showcase, see the UK-RAS website.

Post docs and faculty posts at Chalmers

Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden, has a number of open vacancies for post-doctoral research and

faculty positions, with deadlines up to the end of June. For more information, see the Chalmers website.

LIRA seminar series

Our monthly seminar takes place on the final Wednesday of the month between 1–2pm. Topics vary across disciplines, and we try to give a broad spectrum of different academic perspectives. Our next seminar will take place on Wednesday 26th May where we will be joined by Prof. Jose Garcia from the University of Alicante, Spain. For more details, please email Ahmed Kheiri or to join the talk, click here.

Updates from our members

LIRA member to host conference stream on Logistics and Transportation

The Operational Research Society will host its annual conference on 14th–16th September 2021. LIRA colleague Ahmed Kheiri is organising the stream on Logistics and Transportation. Topics may include (but are not limited to): vehicle routing, airport scheduling, bike/car sharing, public transportation and more. The deadline for submissions is 11th June. For more information, see the OR Society website.

Lancaster Professor gives AI talk to Facebook researchers

Earlier this month, LIRA Director Plamen Angelov gave a virtual live-streamed talk on to Facebook engineers on 'explainable by design deep learning' (xDNN) computer artificial intelligence systems. These are systems where it is possible to understand how the computers arrive at the

decisions they make – overcoming a key issue in AI design. In a separate event, Plamen also co-organised a 'human-centred machine learning' workshop which was attended by more than 300 researchers.

Hybrid conference on the impact of AI and robotics

The European Conference on the Impact of AI and Robotics (ECIAIR) will take place on 18th–19th November 2021 at the Instituto Universitário De Lisboa, Portugal. It will be a hybrid conference where delegates can choose to attend with online, or in person. The deadline for abstract submissions has now passed, however, colleagues can register to attend up until 9th September for an early booking discount.

Got a news item, or event to share?

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