

Two PhD positions in Human-Robot Interaction

The School of Computing and Information Systems at the University of Melbourne is looking for outstanding applicants for two PhD positions to conduct research in Computational Human-Robot Interaction and contribute to research projects under the supervision of Dr Wafa Johal.

About us

Home to over 52000 students among which more than 20000 graduates, the University of Melbourne (UniMelb) is one of the world's top universities (Times Higher Education ranked Melbourne 31st globally; QS: 32nd and ARWU 35th). UniMelb is committed to excellence in research and teaching, interdisciplinary education, and the active promotion of promising young scientists.

The School of Computing and Information Systems (CIS) at Unimelb is a department with a global impact with several research centres among which AI and Digital Transformation. It is located in the new Melbourne Connect building which brings together world-class researchers, industry, SME's, startups, higher-degree students, artists and Science Gallery Melbourne, in a purpose-built innovation precinct right in the heart of Carlton and next to the Parkville campus. It offers facilities for prototyping with the Telstra Makerspace and for user testing with the UX Lab.

Description

The Computational Human-Robot Interaction (CHRI) research group is offering two PhD positions focusing on Augmented Reality for HRI, Interactive Robot Learning or Socially aware Navigation.

The successful candidate will be able to work in a dynamic group of interdisciplinary researchers and PhD students. These PhD positions will give you access to world class robotic equipment and research facilities. You will work closely with researchers at CIS from the AI and HCI groups in an interdisciplinary environment to share expertise and collaborate on research publications in top conferences and journals in robotics, AI and HCI.

Requirements

Please consider applying if you have a Master's degree or equivalent in: computer science, mechanical engineering, or electrical engineering, or a related field or equivalent practical experience. We especially seek individuals who have knowledge and expertise in the following areas:

- Strong programming skills (C/C++, Python, ROS) knowledge and understanding of robot control, machine learning, optimization and planning
- Experience with robots, conducting user experiments or AR/VR development
- H1 equivalent - First Class Honours (or equivalent) degree
- Fluency in spoken and written English
- Good communication skills and ability to present complex content to a diverse audience
- High flexibility in acquiring new knowledge
- Creative and independent thinker
- Ability to work well in cross-functional and interdisciplinary teams with diverse people

How to apply?

Interested applicants should send the following documents via email to wafa.johal@unimelb.edu.au quoting "PhD Position in Computational Human- Robot Interaction" in the subject line.

- A motivation letter (1 page max) describing yourself, your research interests, qualifications, future career goals and research focus and why you would be a suitable candidate
- A detailed CV
- Academic transcripts from your Bachelor's and Master's degrees
- Email addresses of at least two references

The position will be filled as soon as possible, and only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Preferences will be given to applications received before **March 31, 2022**.

CIS has been pursuing the strategic goal of substantially increasing the diversity of their staff. As an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer, we explicitly encourage nominations of and applications from women as well as from all others who would bring additional diversity dimensions to the university's research and teaching strategies.