Call for Participation

Fourteenth Annual AAAI Mobile Robot Competition & Exhibition

**HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
TWENTIETH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

July 9–13, 2005 ■ Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sponsored by the American Association for Artificial Intelligence

We would like to invite you to participate in the Fourteenth Annual AAAI Mobile Robot Competition and Exhibition, sponsored by the American Association for Artificial Intelligence. The Competition brings together teams from universities, colleges, and research laboratories to compete and to demonstrate cutting edge, state of the art research in robotics and artificial intelligence.

The 2005 AAAI Mobile Robot Contest and Exhibition will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as part of AAAI-05, from July 9–13, 2005. The program will include the Robot Challenge, the Open Interaction Event, the Scavenger Hunt, the Robot Exhibition, and the Mobile Robot Workshop. Registration is now open at http://palantir.swarthmore.edu/aaai05/registration.php and full details of the events are available on the website at http://palantir.swarthmore.edu/aaai05/.

Please complete the AAAI registration form as well and submit it with your payment.

The Robot Challenge

In short, the robot is supposed to attend the conference. A breakdown of the tasks includes: starting at the entrance to the conference center and finding the registration desk, registering for the conference, performing volunteer duties as required, interacting with conference attendees, and finally reporting at a prescribed time to a conference hall to give a talk.

Open Interaction Task

In addition to the above event, there will be another event involving human-robot interaction. This event will take the place of the Robot Host event in past years and will probably involve interacting with conference attendees to achieve a particular task in an unstructured environment.

Scavenger Hunt

Robots search the conference hotel area for a checklist of given objects such as people or information located at specific locations or at a specific time. This task will require robots to navigate and map a dynamic area with moving objects/people in order to acquire objects to satisfy the checklist.

We welcome a variety of teams to enter with one or more robots and/or human operators, yet every entrant must demonstrate AI techniques during the competition. A key aspect of this event is having the robots interact with people in the environment during timed missions run throughout the course of the conference. More specific rules and guidelines will be posted shortly. We encourage urban search and rescue teams with AI components to consider joining this event.

The Robot Exhibition

The mission of the Robot Exhibition is to demonstrate state of the art research in a less structured environment than the competition events. The exhibition gives researchers an opportunity to showcase current robotics and embodied-AI research that does not fit into the competition tasks.

The Mobile Robot Workshop

There will be a robotics workshop on the last day of the conference. Teams who receive travel support must attend and present at the workshop. All other participants are strongly encouraged to attend and present. A research paper will be required within one month after the end of the workshop, and will be published in a workshop proceedings by AAAI.

Travel Funding

Limited travel funding will be available. The deadline for registering your intent to participate is May 15, 2005. There may be additional deadlines for travel funding registration.

Participation Fees

Each team will be required to pay a $250 participation fee that will help AAAI to defray the cost of the competition. This fee is in line with fees charged by other competitive robotic events, and helps AAAI to move towards a sustainable funding model for the annual robot competition.

General Cochairs
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Website
http://palantir.swarthmore.edu/aaai05/