

RoboFesta-UK Inaugural Open Meeting

1st November 2001

The Berrill Building
The Open University
Walton Hall
Milton Keynes

Speakers will include

Dr Jeffrey Johnson

Open University, RoboCup Junior, & RoboFesta-UK

Prof. Henrik Hautop Lund

Lego Professor, USD, Denmark
RoboCup Junior & RoboFesta-Scandinavia

Prof. Noel Sharkey

Sheffield University & Creative Robotics Unit at Magna &
Robot Wars

Prof. Martin Smith

University of Central England & Robot Wars &
TechnoGames

Dr Adrian Johnston

University of London & MicroMouse-UK

Tony Kesten

Engineering Policy Unit
Department of Trade and Industry

Jessica Palmer & John Bentley

BBC Robots

Attendance including lunch is free
To book a place please contact

robofesta@open.ac.uk

For more information contact Mrs Jenny Wright
RoboFesta-UK Secretariat
01908-652944

This draft dated 29th Oct 2001

What is RoboFesta-UK?

RoboFesta is a Japanese initiative which has rapidly spread around the world, and now includes RoboFesta-Europe and RoboFesta-UK.

In the 20th century, science and technology rapidly developed and made enormous contributions to improving human living standards, but created many kinds of problems as well.

As we enter the 21st century, if we are to overcome these problems and further develop science and technology, we must prevent the youth of today from drifting from such topics. The important points are to raise independent and creative men and women by giving youngsters the opportunity to build things and to enable many people to better understand and have a greater interest in science and technology.

Robotics is a general technology. Robot contests have a certain "game" element to them and give people the chance to experience the wonder of science & technology.

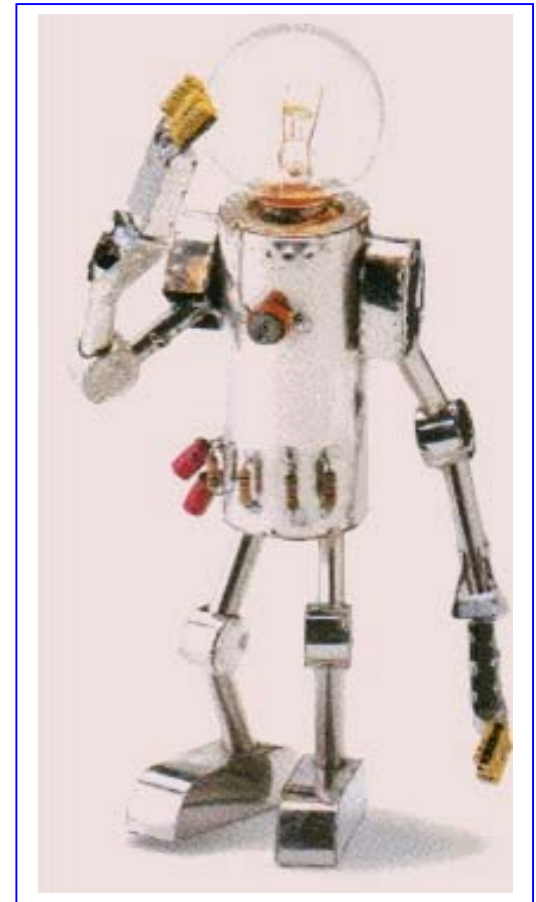
We aim to contribute to the promotion of science and technology by holding International Games Festival and creating an environment in which participants from around the world can get to know and feel more familiar with science and technology.

RoboFesta-UK was founded in 1999 at the invitation of the International Committee. We share the educational and outreach mission of the international RoboFesta Community, and strive to collaborate with others to use robotics as a stimulus for education and public understanding of science and technology in the UK.



RoboCup Junior 2001 Robot Dance World Champions. The UK OU-Juniors Team, Grace and Max Petre with their winning robot.

RoboFesta UK



Promoting science and technology in Britain
through robot events and competitions,
education, and teamwork

 RoboFesta-UK is sponsored by the Open University

The Board of RoboFesta-UK is:

Dr Jeffrey Johnson (Chair)
Department of Design and Innovation
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<http://technology.open.ac.uk/design/johnson.html>

Prof. Noel Sharkey
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Creative Robotics Unit at Magna
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Sheffield
<http://www.magnatrust.org.uk/>
<http://www.dcs.shef.ac.uk/~noel/>

Prof. Martin Smith
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<http://www.robofesta-uk.org>

Web Sites

www.robofesta-uk.org
www.robofesta-europe.org
www.robofesta.net
<http://www.open.ac.uk>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/robots>

email: robofesta@open.ac.uk

RoboFesta UK

Inaugural Open Meeting

Draft Programme: 1st November 2001

9:00	Coffee and Registration
10:00	Working together towards RoboFesta 2004 Dr Jeffrey Johnson
10:15	International Perspective & RoboCup Junior Prof. Henrik Hautop Lund, Lego Professor, USD.
10:45	STEM Delivery, SETpoint, S&E Ambassadors Tony Kesten, Eng. Policy Unit, DTI
11:15	Tea & Coffee & Exhibitions
11:40	MicroMouse Past, Present, and Future Dr Adrian Johnston, University of London
12:00	Creative Robotics Unit at Magna and RoboFesta Prof. Noel Sharkey, University of Sheffield
12:20	RobotWars, Technogames, and RoboFesta Prof. Martin Smith, University Central England
12:40	Connecting with Schools Martin Coleman, Salford University
13:00	Buffet Lunch & Exhibitions
14:00	BBC Robots, Learning Journeys and RoboFesta Jessica Palmer and John Bentley, B.B.C.
14:30	The Design and Technology Curriculum Andy Breckon, Design And Tech. Association
15:00	Tea & Coffee & Exhibitions
15:30	British Automation and Robotics Association Dr Ken Young, BARA & Warwick University
15:50	The Way Forward Dr Jeffrey Johnson, RoboFesta-UK
16:00	Close

Purpose of the Inaugural Open Meeting

The Board and Committee of RoboFesta-UK are planning to hold a major series of RoboFesta events as part of RoboFesta-Europe celebration in 2004.

Our intention is that local committees will organise these events, with our help, in all parts of the UK: from Exeter to Glasgow, from Norwich to Belfast.

To make this happen it is essential that RoboFesta works with the many established robotics and educational groups in the UK.

The purpose of this meeting is to bring together the many UK robotics organisations, university robotics specialists, educationalists, school teachers, museum curators, robot manufacturers, school equipment suppliers, government organisations, local authorities broadcasters, and others, to see how we can work together to make RoboFesta a success in 2004.

RoboFesta stresses teamwork and working together for mutual benefit and to make contributions to education and science and technology in the UK. We hope that others will want to join with us and help to shape and direct this exciting initiative.

Anyone can join RoboFesta, and everyone is welcome to help us undertake the massive task of making RoboFesta-UK-2004 a major success and a milestone in British science, technology, and education. Please come to the meeting, and maybe join the Advisory Committee, or volunteer to help organise RoboFesta in your area.

To attend the meeting please email Jenny Wright

robofesta@open.ac.uk

with your name, address, fax, and telephone number.
Attendance including lunch, coffee, and tea is free.

See over for more contact information