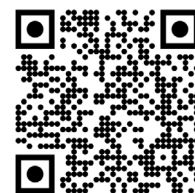


The Maryland Robotics Center at the University of Maryland proudly presents

FUTURE LEADERS IN ROBOTICS & AI: CELEBRATING DIVERSITY & INNOVATION SEMINAR SERIES

A nationwide seminar series for PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, and early career professionals highlighting the latest research and innovation in the field of robotics and AI, especially from underrepresented minorities & women.

Nominations, webinar links & more at: robotics.umd.edu/FutureLeaders



Spring 2025 Seminars (2 PM TO 3 PM ET)

February 28

Yoonchang Sung, Postdoc Fellow
University of Texas Austin
"Extending Current Capabilities of
Task and Motion Planning"



Elena-Sorina Lupu, PhD Student
California Institute of Technology
"Perception-Driven Autonomy and
Learning Control for Space Robotics"

March 28

Reuth Mirsky, Assistant Professor
Tufts University
"Bad Robot, Good Robot - Rethinking
the Agency of Our Artificial Teammates"



Yewei Huang, PhD Student
Stevens Institute of Technology
"Data Efficient Localization & Mapping for
Distributed Multi-Robot Teams in the Field"

April 11

Oier Mees, Postdoc Fellow
University of California Berkeley
"Embodied Multimodal Intelligence
with Foundation Models"



Heiko Kabutz, PhD Student
University of Colorado Boulder
"Increasing Agility of Insect Robots
Through Body Shape Morphing"

April 18

Sheng Cheng, Postdoc Fellow,
University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
"DiffTune: Auto-Tuning through
Auto-Differentiation"



Laura Zheng, PhD Student
University of Maryland
"Who Is Driving the Car? Modeling
Driver Personas for Accurate Behavior
Simulation in Autonomous Driving"

April 25

Himani Sinhmar, Postdoc Fellow
Princeton University
"Provably Scalable & Decentralized
Control Design for Minimalist Robot Swarms"



Ran (Thomas) Tian, PhD Student
University of California Berkeley
"Towards Safe and Aligned Embodied AI
in the Era of Robotics Foundation Models"

May 9

Homanga Bharadhwaj, PhD Student
Carnegie Mellon University
"Watch, Predict, Act: Robot Learning
Meets Web Videos"



Shivani Kamtikar, PhD Student
University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
"Learning-Based Manipulation and Control
of Hybrid Robotic Arms"