

# EURON Annual Meeting 2008 “State of the EURON”

Herman Bruyninckx

28 March, 2008

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## Overview

- ▶ Results of change in Directorate General
- ▶ Overview of the contractual Work Packages
- ▶ New (reviewers-driven) activity: EURON videos
- ▶ The new EURON

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## Change of Directorate General

Project Officer (was not fully official last year in Chania)

- ▶ Previous: Mr. Pekka Karp (Brussels).
- ▶ Current: Mrs. **Anne Bajart** (Luxembourg).



- ▶ Directorate General headed by Mrs. **Colette Maloney**, DG INFSO Head of Unit E5, Cognition.

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Major change: **focus** on:

1. **research**
2. synchronisation with **industry**
3. **benchmarkable** research progress

(Thanks for “puhsing” the **vision!!!!**)

Which means we go from here. . .

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## Research Roadmap

Work Package leader: Rüdiger Dillmann.

- ▶ The synchronisation with industry is being realised!
- ⇒ common *Strategic Research Agenda*
- ▶ But, because of practical timing problems, released in two steps:
  - ▶ Academic version
  - ▶ Industrial version
- ▶ There is another meeting next week.

**Please, participate!**

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## Research benchmarks

Work Package leader: Angel P. del Pobil.

- ▶ Focus point of DG!
- ▶ A lot of activity this year :-)
- ▶ Special Interest Group GEM:

*Good Experimental Methodologies*

There are meetings today and next week.  
There is RoSta/Benchmarking WP.

**Please, participate!**

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## Joint research

- ▶ Idea of our previous DG: to fund highly innovative ideas in small research projects.
- ▶ Results:
  - ▶ Call February 2007: making procedure much more lightweight.
  - ▶ Current DG **canceled** this activity, focusing on *Call 3*.
  - ▶ Too hard for a Network like EURON anyway. . .
- ▶ Apologies to those you were victim. . .

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Key Area leader Alicia Casals.

Took on hardest new job this year:

- ▶ Reviewers suggested *“to reach out to common public”* . . .

⇒ **EURON Videos!**

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## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Inventory of Robotics Education in Europe / Models of Robotic Courses
- Teaching Material Data Base
- Theseuron: Thesis Repository
- 7th Edition Georges Giralt Ph D Award
- Educational Video on Robotics

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### Maintenance of previous initiatives

- Inventory of Robotics Education in Europe / Models of Robotic Courses
- Teaching Material Data Base
- Theseuron: Thesis Repository

• 7th Edition Georges Giralt Ph D Award

27 Applications

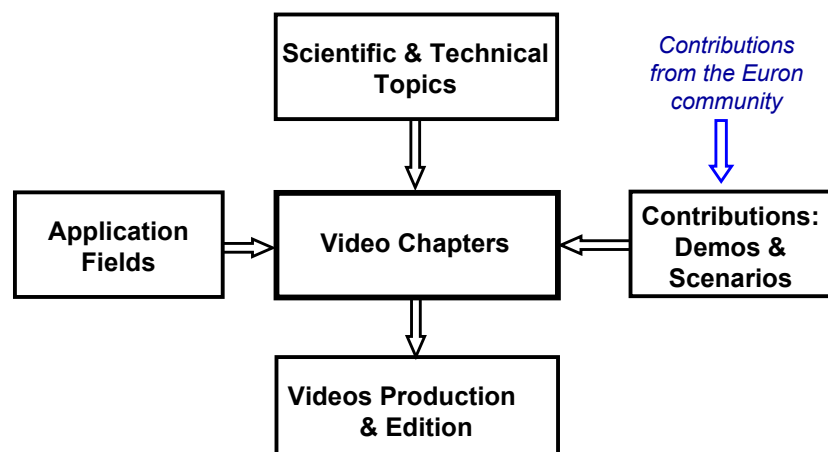
2 Awards: Best Core Robotics  
 Best Robotics Application

• Educational Video on Robotics

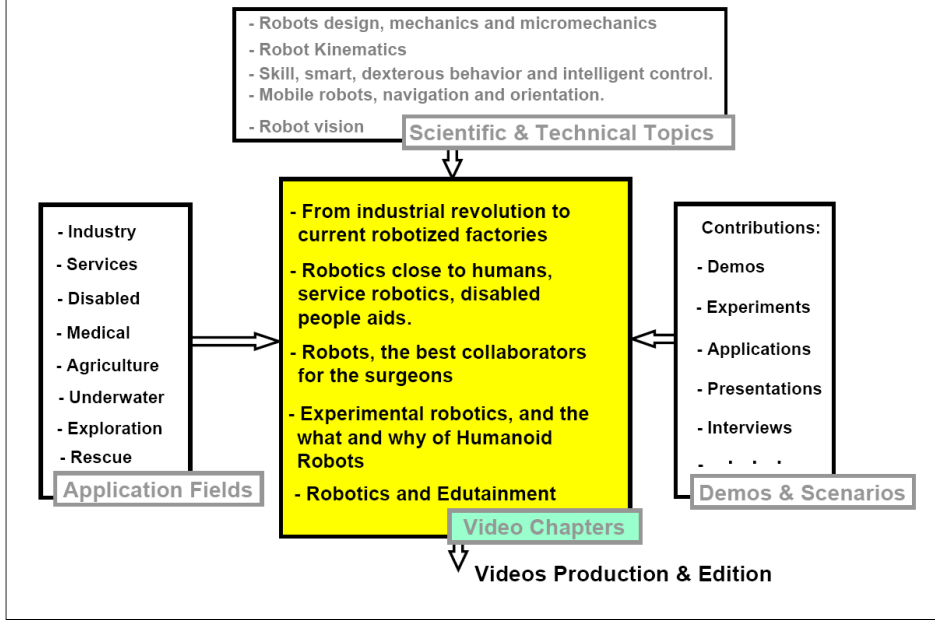
Generation of audiovisual material that:

- Can **reach the great public** showing the possibilities and the reality of robotics
- Presents the possibilities and the **reality of robotics** in applications far beyond the classical industrial environment
- Presents robotics as a relevant component for the improvement of **life quality**, considering both, labor and daily life
- Gives a **glance of the technological and scientific research** involved in the advances towards more intelligent robotics

Some views of robotic science and its applications



### The three basic components for each EURON Videos chapter



## Summer Schools

Work Package leader Roland Siegwart.

Successful summer (4) and winter schools (3),  
as **always**. . . :-)

**Thanks for organizing/participating!**

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## Book series

Key Area leader Bruno Siciliano  
Springer assistance: Thomas Ditzinger

- ▶ **38** volumes already published!
- ▶ **8** volumes published last year.  
(3 monographs and 5 edited collections)
- ▶ **4** volumes in production.  
(2 monographs and 2 edited collections)
- ▶ **9** volumes accepted.  
(5 monographs and 4 edited collections)
- ▶ 2 proposals under review, 3 under revision.
- ▶ 3 proposals rejected, 3 withdrawn after review.

**Please, participate!**

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# Information about EURON and the Beyond Robotics initiative

- ▶ 3 columns in IEEE Robotics and Automation Magazine.
- ▶ About 10 articles/reports in national and international media.

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## WWW site

Work Package leader John Hallam  
Web master Bridget Hallam

Raw numbers from last year:

<http://www.euron.org/activities/www/ReportMar08.html>  
<http://www.euron.org/activities/www/popularpages.html>  
<http://www.euron.org/activities/www/topcountries.html>

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Total pages served: 1.7 million (= 4,783/day)

Visitors by country:

- ▶ 585,773 USA
- ▶ 278,824 Germany
- ▶ 173,367 Italy
- ▶ 155,618 UK
- ▶ 147,874 undefined
- ▶ 146,664 Spain
- ▶ 111,732 France

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## Most popular pages (more than 3000 serves):

176,311	EURON home page	
7,169	News index	news/
6,080	Robot gallery	resources/robotgallery.html
5,686	Members index	members/
5,608	Activities index	activities/
5,564	Postdoc jobs	news/postdoc.html
5,317	Introduction to EURON	intro/
5,089	Junior jobs	news/phds.html
4,184	Resources index	resources/
3,927	Industrial members list	members/lists/indmem.html
3,687	German members	maps/germany.html
3,358	EURON Schools index	activities/schools/
3,332	Greek members	maps/greece.html
3,259	Calls for Papers etc	news/calls.html
3,018	EUROS index	activities/EUROS/

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## WWW site Current Status

- ▶ widely used
- ▶ very good manual web maintenance by Bridget
- ▶ John is finalising member-driven content management
- ▶ 1135 subscribers on EURON mailinglist!

**Please, participate!**

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## Liaison with Organisations (IFR, EUnited, ...)

Work Package leader Martin Hägele

- ▶ Contribution to *World Robotics Yearbook*.
- ▶ Service robot statistics
- ▶ Interaction with EUROP, driven by a coordination action *CARE* with some EURON representatives, to make the *Strategic Research Agenda* together with industry.
- ▶ Interaction with RoSta ([www.robot-standards.org](http://www.robot-standards.org)).

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Work Package leader Martin Hägele

- ▶ 8 applications received, 7 formally accepted.
- ▶ 3 finalists.
- ▶ Continuously good quality! :-)

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## Special Interest Groups

- ▶ (Only) two active now.
- ▶ Please, go to their presentations later today!  
... and **participate** in their activities!
- ▶ Any *new* initiatives?!?!
- Open source projects?
- Bayesian methods in robotics?
- 3D world representations for planning and sensing?
- ...

**Please, participate!**

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## Towards a Durable European Robotics Entity —a.k.a. the New EURON—

- ▶ What after this EURON, from May 2008 onwards...?
- ▶ You all know what happened... :
  - ▶ *Call* to solicit proposals from community
  - ▶ Very low response
  - ▶ (Too) open voting.
- ▶ **Please, talk to us** and let us know what **you** think is important!

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## The new team



Herman  
Bruyninckx



John  
Hallam



Jean-Pierre  
Merlet



Angel P.  
del Pobil



Anibal  
Ollero



Fabio  
Bonsignorio



Jon  
Agirre Ibarbia



Juha  
Röning



Paolo  
Fiorini

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