



# Australian Robotics and Automation Association

Summary of Annual General Meeting 2016

Presented at ARSSM, Vancouver  
27 Sep 2017



 The robotics design lab





# ARAA membership



- The ARAA is a small society (~200 registered active members)
- Established 1999
- Free membership for individuals
- The ARAA accepts organisational members
- Membership details are available on the organisation's website ([www.araa.asn.au](http://www.araa.asn.au))



**ARAANews**



# What does the ARAA do?



- The Association organises/manages conferences and other meetings
  - Australasian Conference on Robotics & Automation (ACRA)
  - Field and Service Robotics conferences
- Act as a focal point for Australian media interested in Robotics (exec. receives regular phone enquires and emails)
- Distribute information for the robotics research community
  - Mailing list
    - [robotics-australia-nz-list@lists.csiro.au](mailto:robotics-australia-nz-list@lists.csiro.au)
  - ARAA facebook (ARAANews)
  - ARAA website

# ACRA



- Annual conference since 1999
  - **ACRA 2016**: 41 submitted, 34 papers accepted, 78 registered attendees
  - Smaller than usual
- Provides a supportive forum for Australian researchers to present recent research.
- Creates a national robotics community in Australia and New Zealand
  - foster better funding outcomes, ARC, etc.
  - Provides better international visibility of Australian and New Zealand robotics research
- Proceedings freely available ([www.araa.asn.au](http://www.araa.asn.au))
- ARAA website updated in 2014 to provide a more modern template and easier maintenance



# In 2016

- ACRA 2016
- Media engagements and commentary about robotics and automation
- Financial support to education in robotics
- Australian Academy of Science commissioned a report: The Future of Autonomous Robotics (14 Australian academics)



# In 2016

- Lots of support and interest in robotics research in Australia
- International Developments
  - Lots of robotics positions worldwide: both industry and academia
  - ICRA 2018 to come to Australia
  - Lots of other developments in the field



# In 2017 so far

- ICRA 2018 preparation in full swing
- Robotic Technology Roadmap is commissioned, led by ARC Centre of Excellence of Robotic Vision.

# ARSU



- ARSU is the Asian Robotics Society Union: [www.asian-robotics.org](http://www.asian-robotics.org)
- Bruce Macdonald and Denny Oetomo attended the ARSU meeting at IROS 2015 at Daejeon.
- Also present: Robotics Society of Japan, Korean Robotics Society, Indian Robotics Society
  - There are some other Asian robotics societies as well: Vietnam, Singapore, Thailand, China.
- Purpose: collaboration amongst robotics societies
- If people want to engage with robotics researchers we can facilitate
- Young robotics researchers would be welcome to visit Japan, Korea, etc.
- Hosting the lunch is shared amongst Japan and Korea, and the host country if possible. ARAA could maybe host lunch sometime.
- Next meeting is at IROS 2017 in Vancouver.



# Office Bearers 2017



## Elected in the AGM:

- President: Denny Oetomo
- Vice President: Hanna Kurniawati
- Treasurer: Mark Whitty
- Secretary: Sarath Kodagoda

## Other committee roles (non-executive):

- ACRA chair:* Sarath Kodagoda  
*Webmaster:* Stefan B. Williams  
*Public Officer:* Rob Mahony  
*NZ representative:* Bruce MacDonald



# ACRA 2017

The 19th Australasian Conference on Robotics  
and Automation

**Sydney**

**(University of Technology, Sydney)**

- Dates: 11-13 Dec 2017
- <http://www.araa.asn.au/conferences/acra-2017/>
- Since 2013:
- Awards
  - Lifetime Achievement Award – Ray Jarvis
  - Raymond A. Jarvis Memorial Best Paper Award



[www.araa.asn.au](http://www.araa.asn.au)

Thanks for your  
attention

