Informatics Europe
Awards Ceremony 2020
Minerva Informatics Equality Award

Award Committee Chair:

Susan Eisenbach

Imperial College London, UK

Award Presenter:

Letizia Jaccheri

Norwegian University of Science and Technology & Chair of the COST Action CA19122 EUGAIN

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Minerva Informatics Equality Award

"Encouraging female students to enrol in Computer Science/Informatics programmes and retaining them"

Award Committee:

Hagit Attiya, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, Israel

Barbora Buhnova, Masaryk University, Czech Republic

Sarah Jane Delany, TU Dublin, Ireland

Steve Kremer, Inria, France

Monica Landoni, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland

Brenda Murphy, University of Malta, Malta

Ute Schmid, University of Bamberg, Germany

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OUTCOME Minerva Informatics Equality Award

One winner

One runner-up

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2021 Minerva Informatics Equality Award

Runner-up Honorable Mention

The International Women´s Degree Program in Computer Science (IFI)

Hochschule Bremen

in recognition of encouraging female students to enrol in Robotics/Informatics programmes and retaining them

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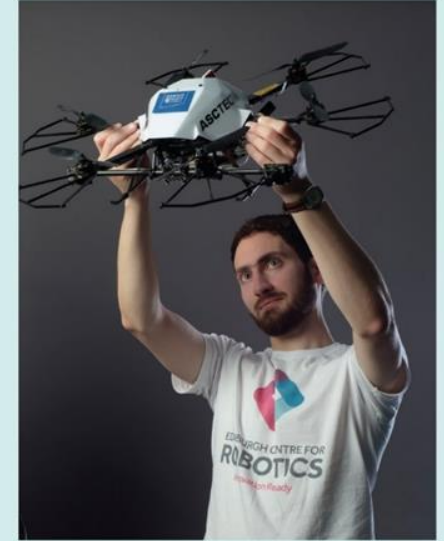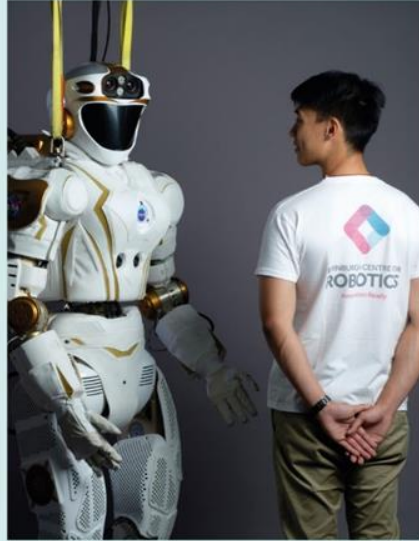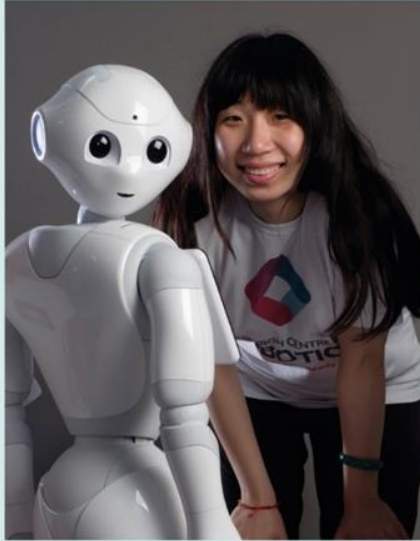# 2021 Minerva Informatics Equality Award

Presented to

The EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Robotics and Autonomous Systems at the Edinburgh Centre for Robotics

in recognition of encouraging female students to enrol in Robotics/Informatics programmes and retaining them

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EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Robotics and Autonomous Systems

Informatics Europe

EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training

- The Edinburgh Centre of Robotics: joint initiative between Heriot-Watt University and University of Edinburgh

- Training ~140 PhD students over 14 years in the latest Robotics and Autonomous Systems research and development

- Teaching Responsible, Research and Innovation

- Providing access to world-class facilities in Bayes Centre and National Robotarium

- Innovation training and enterprise funds to support early-stage commercialisation prototypes

- Graduate destinations include FiveAI, Dyson, Deepmind, SeeByte

EDINBURGH CENTRE FOR
ROBOTICS
Innovation Ready

**Annual Review
2017/2018**

**EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in
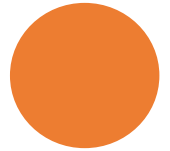Robotics and Autonomous Systems**

HERIOT WATT UNIVERSITY

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

EPSRC
Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

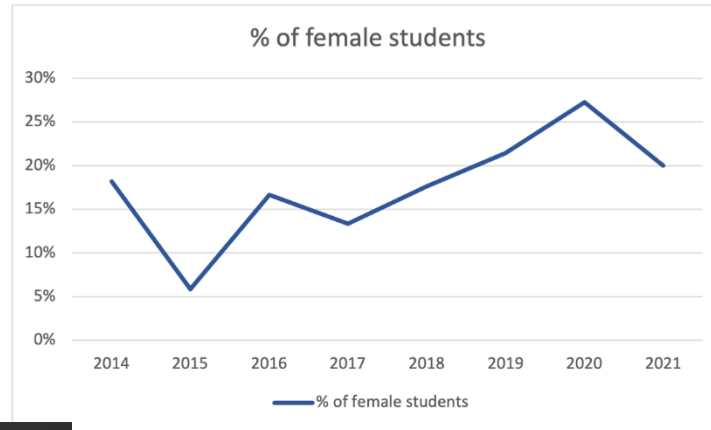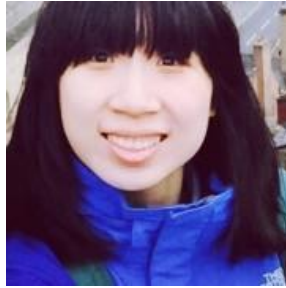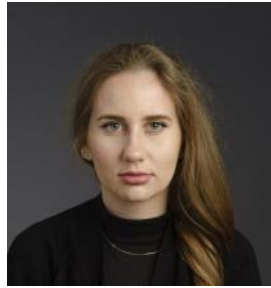Diversity through: Recruitment, Training, Retention and Support

All images taken pre-covid

Recruitment:

- Ensuring diversity on interview panels to make the selection process fair and transparent for all candidates.

- Monitoring marketing materials and website to ensure that they are inclusive for female applicants and those from diverse backgrounds.

- Improving our recruitment strategy to include visits to universities by female staff, including the centre director, and female-only student open days.

- Enhancing the multi-disciplinary aspect of the centre to attract candidates from diverse backrounds.

% of female students

Training:

creating a culture of awareness at the Centre to increase diversity

- Staff:
  - Inclusive Recruitment Practice Training for Staff
  - Unconscious Bias Training for academics and professional support staff

- Students:
  - Mandatory online Diversity in the Workplace training course for all students in the first year of their PhD

Retention:

providing a flexible, inclusive programme designed for diversity and multidisciplinarity

4-year PhD with *flexible* Technical Learning Portfolio

- Year 1 – Taught courses at MSc level on Robotics and AI

- Year 2 – Group project to encourage publishable, multi-disciplinary projects

- Year 3 – Industry/international placement

- Year 4 – Innovation and industry readiness awareness

+

Confidence building soft skills training and outreach activities

Women in Robotics, Edinburgh

Support:

- Women in Robotics Focus Group
- Follow Wire group on Twitter @womenroboticsed

Female Mentorship Programme

Empower - Inspire - Connect

monthly meetings with tech female mentors

Thank you!