A Workshop/Tutorial for the

IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (IEEE RO-MAN 2016)

New York, USA, August 26-31, 2016.

Title
Workshop on Robot Therapy with Seal Robot, PARO

Format
Full day

Main organiser
Name: Kazuyoshi Wada
Affiliation: Tokyo Metropolitan Univ.
Address: 6-6 Asahigaoka, Hino, Tokyo 191-0065, Japan
Phone: +81-42-585-8475
Email address: k_wada@tmu.ac.jp

Co-organisers
Name: Takanori Shibata
Affiliation: AIST
Email address: shibata-takanori@aist.go.jp

Statement of objectives – intended audience
Recently, robot therapy—mental health care through interaction with robots—has attracted many researchers. In particular, the therapeutic seal robot named PARO, which was developed by AIST, is widely used in more than 30 countries. PARO is a neurological therapeutic medical device approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This workshop introduces how PARO is evaluated and used clinically as non-pharmacological therapy for various patients from children to elderly, and its social, psychological and physiological effects. Then, participants will discuss the future of robot therapy. Intended audiences are robotics engineers, psychologists, sociologists, medical doctors, nurses, caregivers, therapists, students who are interested in HRI research, and etc.

List of speakers (tentative)
Alan Kadzin, Yale University (invited)
Elizabeth Broadbent, Univ. of Auckland, NZ (invited): Performing randomised controlled trials with PARO: A case study
Kaoru Inoue, Tokyo Metropolitan Univ. (invited)
Patrizia Marti, Siena Univ. (invited)
Selma Sabanovic, Indiana Univ. (invited)
Kazuyoshi Wada, Tokyo Metropolitan Univ.: How PARO stimulates brain activities of interacting human observed by fMRI
Takanori Shibata, AIST: Recent trends and clinical evidences of robot therapy with PARO

List of topics
Robot Therapy, Neurological Therapy, Non-Pharmacological Therapy, Randomized Control Trial, Dementia, Autism, Down-Syndrome, Cancer, PTSD, Stress, Anxiety, Depression, Sleep, Aphasia, Schizophrenia, Brain Research (fMRI, EEG, fNIRS, etc.), Ethics