

Challenges for Robotics in the US

Challenges

1. Robotics R&D for the civil sector is underfunded

Challenges

2. Robotics has no visibility national voice

Challenges

3. There is no national research agenda for robotics for the next decade

Challenges

4. Robotics industry is relatively weak and communication between academia and industry is not good

Challenges

5. There is inadequate capital for new robotics companies

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6. The US is losing its competitive position

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1. Robotics R&D is underfunded
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Possible solutions

1. Organize. Form a community infrastructure, an American Robotics Network (AMERON) including researchers and practitioners from academia, industry and government

Possible solutions

2. Identify and prioritize goals for robotics for the next decade (R&D, applications, industry, education)

Possible solutions

3. Create Roadmaps to realization of the goals

Possible solutions

4. Identify major targets of opportunity for robotics (agriculture, health care, eldercare, urban infrastructure, ...)
 - Approach relevant Federal agencies
 - Form teams with appropriate industry
 - Meet with Congressional leaders to obtain support

Possible solutions

5. Meet with Government agencies to find intersections of our goals and their needs.
6. Lobby Congress for additional robotics funding, as part of the President's competitiveness initiative

Possible solutions

7. Work with NSF and Interagency Task Force on Robotics

Possible solutions

8. Stimulate robotics industry

- Form task forces in specific industries
- Meet with Venture Capital groups

Possible solutions

9. Explore collaborative projects with EURON, RSJ, KRS, etc.

Possible solutions

10. Educational programs:

- Organize Summer Schools, on-line journals, wikis in selected areas, publication of “White Papers”, etc.
- Propose robotics curricula and courses; establish guidelines

Possible solutions

1. Organize. Form an American Robotics Network
2. Identify goals for robotics for the next decade
3. Create Roadmaps to realization of the goals
4. Identify major targets of opportunity for robotics
5. Meet with Government agencies
6. Lobby Congress
7. Work with NSF
8. Stimulate industry; work with VCs
9. Collaborate with EURON, RSJ, KRS, ...
10. Educational programs

How to get started

1. Form Steering Committee
2. Seek start-up funding