Goldie Nejat

Canada Research Chair in Robots for Society
Associate Professor and Director of the Autonomous Systems and Biomechatronics Laboratory (ASBLab),
Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering,

Director of the Institute for Robotics and Mechatronics (IRM)
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

BIOSKETCH

Goldie Nejat, PhD, P.Eng. is the Canada Research Chair in Robots for Society and the Director of the Institute for Robotics and Mechatronics (IRM) at the University of Toronto. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering and the Founder and Director of the Autonomous Systems and Biomechatronics Laboratory (asblab.mie.utoronto.ca). She is also an Adjunct Scientist at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute.

Prof. Nejat's research focuses on developing intelligent service robots for applications in health, elderly care, emergency response, search and rescue, security and surveillance, and manufacturing. Her research is leading the development of intelligent assistive robotic aids that can meet the challenges posed by an aging population. Her interactive robots, including Brian, Casper and Tangy, are being designed to provide cognitive and social interventions, help with activities of daily living, and lead group recreational activities to improve the quality of life of older adults. Prof. Nejat and her team collaborate with healthcare experts and a number of healthcare facilities in order to develop these unique social robots so that they can be effectively integrated into people's everyday lives.

Prof. Nejat has over 140 international publications in both the natural and health sciences domains. She has been invited to speak about her research to researchers, scientists, healthcare professionals, governments and the general public at many events and institutions around the world. She has served on the organizing and program committees of over thirty international conferences on robotics, automation, human-robot interaction and medical devices. Prof. Nejat is also an Associate Editor for IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters, and IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering. Her team's work has been presented in close to 70 media stories in numerous outlets including Time magazine, Bloomberg, The Naked Scientists, Reader's Digest, Zoomer magazine, and the Discovery Channel. In 2013, she received the Engineers Canada Young Engineer Achievement Award and in 2012, she received the Professional Engineers of Ontario Young Engineer Medal, both awards are for her exceptional achievements in the field of robotics at a young age.