Robofest e-Newsletter, 04-28-16

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Note: All times are listed in EST
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(1) Robofest 2016 Michigan Championship
Saturday, April 30; 9am ~ 4pm
Lawrence Technological University, Southfield, Michigan
Open to the public, free admission. Parking is free.

Come and see the 91 robotics teams that advanced from 11 Michigan qualifiers. Spectators who register on site to be judges who select the People Choice Award teams will be automatically entered to win raffle prizes such as the Amazon Echo and tablets.

The challenge this year is a RoboGolf game. It is about building an autonomous robot that holds a wooden putter and finds greens, locates golf balls, and putts them into a hole. Teams that win at the Michigan Championship will advance to the Robofest 2016 World Championship at LTU on May 14.

(2) Last Chance for Open Competition Registration for World Championship
Open competition categories for World Championship (Unknown Mission Challenge, and Vision Centric Challenge - Vcc) is open for registration on www.robofest.net. A few openings are left. Sr. UMC winners will receive $2,000 renewable LTU scholarship.

(3) Wanted: Senior Lecturer in Computer Science at LTU

Department of Math & Computer Science at Lawrence Technological University (LTU), the home Dept. of Robofest, is seeking applications for full-time Senior Lecturer positions for the Computer Science programs. This is a full-time 9-month position, beginning mid-August 2016, with an initial appointment term of one academic year and the possibility for renewal.

Senior Lecturers are expected to deliver high quality instruction in both undergraduate and introductory graduate level courses in an active computer science program.

A master degree in computer science is required, and a Ph.D. in computer science is preferred. Exceptional candidates in any area and at any level are encouraged to apply, although cyber security and scientific computing are of particular interest. Prior teaching experience is a plus.

Applicants should send a cover letter (email), a curriculum vitae, list of references, undergraduate and graduate transcripts (unofficial copies initially acceptable) to cssearch@LTU.edu (Email submission preferred). Submission of "statement of teaching philosophy" is optional. Review of applications begins immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

(4) A letter from Robofest China organizer - Students from China would like to visit US schools

"We are the host of Robofest China and will bring our kids to Detroit in this coming May. Our students show great interest to see how their peers in U.S. are studying Robotics. Meanwhile, our coaches are also very keen to communicate with you about how to incorporate Robotics into daily teaching activities.

Therefore, we are wondering whether you can give us a chance to visit your teaching environment, and let our kids to communicate with your kids.

A short visit or class will be perfect! We are sincerely looking forward to communicating with your team, and we will be responsible for all the fees occurred in this activity! We already prepare some small but delicate gifts for you and your students, please contact us at xiezeng1986@gmail.com if you are interested and we will discuss further."

(5) Coach Awards
We would like to acknowledge some of our coaches:
- 10 year coach: Kevin Furgal
- 5 year coaches: Douglas Chubb, Jessica Wash, Joe DeRose, Robert Jones, David Carbery, and Pepper Bates

They will be recognized at the Michigan Championship or World Championship. If we missed anyone who reaches anniversary year, please contact Dr. Chung at cchung@LTU.edu

(6) Robofest 2016 Sponsors
A List of official Robofest 2016 sponsors can be found at: http://www.robofest.net/2016/sponsors.htm

Robofest 2016 would not be possible without the support from our generous sponsors: DENSO, Toyota, Lego Education, The Michigan Council of Women in Technology Foundation, Neilsen, Robomatter, National Defense Industrial Association Michigan Chapter, IEEE Southeast Michigan Section and Region 4, RIIS Inc., Realtime Technologies Inc., Mindsensors.com, and Hanyang University.

(7) Mindsensors is offering 15% Discount for Robofest Participants:
One of our 2016 corporate sponsors, Mindsensors, provides high quality parts for Raspberry Pi, LEGO Mindstorms NXT & EV3 Robotic systems. Their objective is to make technology products readily accessible; so your child can achieve highest level of learning.

They are offering a 15% discount voucher code which team members can redeem at the website: http://www.mindsensors.com. The voucher code, valid until May 14, 2016 is ROBOFESTC34D.

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