

SVWCRC2017
Chairman Dr. Hwa A. Lim's Welcome Remark:



Dear Robots, *Homo Sapiens*, and Everybody and Everything in Between,

I am very honored to be chairing this exciting event, SVWCRC2017. Having organized and chaired a score of international events previously does not automatically qualify me for this challenging position. These experiences do, however, provide me some insights as to which undertakings are likely to succeed.

When it comes to robots, “hard things are easy, and easy things are hard.” For those of you who are in the trade, this axiom is known as Moravec’s paradox.

We, *Homo sapiens*, are a product of million years of evolution; robots are a product of science and technology. Many of the (easy) activities that we do naturally are actually very hard for robots, but it is comparatively easy for robots to exhibit adult level performance in intelligent tests or playing chess. Not surprisingly, Deep Blue beat Kasparov in chess; and Watson bested Ken Jensen, the world’s leading human player in *Jeopardy!*.

Vision, motion, and auditory are three of the “easy” things we *H. sapiens* take for granted. Dancing well involves all these three things robots view “hard”. No wonder *H. sapiens* “started” dancing before robots do. If we revert to anthropomorphic thinking, robots likely will want to dance like *H. sapiens*.

So SVWCRC2017 is going to be very exciting. The cross- and trans-disciplinary of humanity (the nuances of body movement, expressiveness and creativity in the arts of dancing) and robotity (science and technology) articulated through an evolutionary product (*H. sapiens*), versus through a technological product (robots) that is much less versed in these nuances but great in repetitions, accuracies and precisions! And it becomes the partnership of *H. sapiens*-robots in a creatively *cooperative* (competition by cooperation) manner to outperform competitors.

We look forward to hobbyists, aficionados, and experts alike to partake in SVWCRC2017. See all of you in a few months, in Silicon Valley, one of the havens of robots, artifacts, and *H. sapiens* (Latin: wise man), and comes October, many more will alight to compete in SVWCRC2017. Thank you, and welcome.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Dr. Hwa A. Lim
March 3, 2017