

RESEARCH STUDENTS' SEMINAR SERIES

Friday 15 July 2016

10:00 – 11:00

**SEERC Conference Room
3rd Floor, Strategakis Bldg**

“Socially Assistive Robots for caring and monitoring the elderly”

By

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ABSTRACT

Socially Assistive Robots (SAR) is a promising technology for helping the elderly live better, especially now in an ageing world with less and less people available to care. This report describes ongoing research as part of the PhD studies of the author in investigating the potential of this technology for helping the elderly. The focus is in building a new cost effective SAR that could increase the affordability and availability of the technology by combining consumer available off the shelf technologies. The robot will play the role of a physical exercising coach providing demonstration, encouragement and motivation in physical exercising routines. Physical exercising is profoundly important for general wellbeing of elderly people. It will be evaluated with elderly participants at elderly institutional home in Prishtina, Kosovo. So far a prototype has been built and the robot is able to demonstrate and provide feedback on seven arm exercises. The research plan involves interviewing elderly, formal and informal caregivers to understand their opinions, concerns and recommendations as the area under investigation is not yet fully explored. Insights will be incorporated in the design and development of the final system. The last phase involves hypothesis testing by designing and conducting experiments. The dimensions of cost from affordability perspective will be taken into account as well. The reasons for undertaking the research, aims and objectives, work done so far, research methodology and plan for continuing and completing the research are described in detail in sections of this report.

The seminar series is open to all members of *staff* and *students* of CITY and to any *externals* that wish to attend.



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