

Special Issue

Intricacies of Child–Robot Interaction

Message from the Guest Editors

In recent decades, there has been an upsurge in interest around child–robot interaction (CRI). The possibilities of using social robots for educational or therapeutic purposes in schools, hospitals, and domestic settings have captured the attention of researchers, institutions, and stakeholders alike. In recent years, however, voices have been raised that emphasize the need for critical and ethical perspectives on the study and use of social robots for children. The trajectory of technological change is never straightforward. While the potentials for CRI are high, so are the stakes. Like many other technologies targeting children, we are still unsure about the long-term effects of CRI on children's mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing and development. Through our years of experience in this field, we know that researchers indeed confront several difficulties, challenges, and dilemmas in trying to make the interaction between children and robots work successfully. With this Special Issue, we aim to focus on the challenges of CRI that are widely known—but seldom reported—within the research field. For more information, see our [special issue website](#).

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Towards the end of 2018, I was approached to be the new Editor-in-Chief for the *Multimodal Technologies and Interaction (MTI)* journal. I was honored to be considered and happily accepted the role, starting in January 2019.

MTI is a new journal, and since starting in 2017, has published over 800 papers, with the number of publications continuing to grow. As Editor-in-Chief, I would like to continue increasing the number of high-quality papers that we publish, and in addition, work towards improving the journal in other ways, such as getting the journal listed on ISI, establishing an impact factor, and increasing our social media presence. I would also like to better engage with the research community, including bringing some new members onto the Editorial Board, focusing the journal on the latest areas of interest, marketing at leading conferences and, most importantly, getting feedback from our readers.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Mark Billinghurst

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