



ROBOTICS & IOT SEMINAR

Power Women of Robotics Series

Ayanna Howard

Dean of Engineering

The Ohio State University

Making the World Better through Robotics and AI

Friday, Mar 4, 2022, 3:30pm, Zoom

Abstract: At 27, Dr. Ayanna Howard was hired by NASA to lead a team designing a robot for future Mars exploration missions that could “think like a human and adapt to change.” Her accomplishments since then include being named as one of 2015’s most powerful women engineers in the world and as one of Forbes’ 2018 U.S. Top 50 Women in Tech. From creating robots to studying the impact of global warming on the Antarctic ice shelves to founding a company that develops STEM education and therapy products for children and those with varying needs, Dean Howard focuses on our role in being responsible global citizens. In this talk, Dean Howard will delve into the implications of recent advances in robotics and AI and explain the critical importance of ensuring diversity and inclusion at all stages to ensure robots are designed to be accessible to all. Throughout the talk, Dr. Howard will weave in her own journey as she navigated her roles at NASA, Georgia Tech, OSU, and in technology startups.



Bio: Dr. Ayanna Howard is the Monte Ahuja Endowed Dean of Engineering and professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering with a joint appointment in Computer Science and Engineering. Formerly, she was chair of the School of Interactive Computing at Georgia Tech and also spent twelve years at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Lab where she was senior robotics researcher and deputy manager in the Office of the Chief Scientist. Her MS and PhD are in electrical engineering from USC.



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