

# Establishing a Visiting Fellow Program at the VSoE Center for Robotics and Embedded Systems

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**Program summary:** Our proposal was to establish a visiting fellow program at the VSoE USC Center for Robotics and Embedded Systems (CRES). CRES (<http://cres.usc.edu>) an interdisciplinary organized research unit (ORU) in the USC Viterbi School of Engineering that focuses on the science and technology of effective, robust, and scalable robotic systems, with broad and far-reaching applications. CRES facilitates interdisciplinary interactions and collaboration through its robotics faculty and its large team of interdisciplinary affiliates and serves as a linchpin for strategic research areas at USC. CRES projects span the areas of service, humanoid, distributed, reconfigurable, space, and nanorobotics and impact a broad spectrum of applications, including assistance, training and rehabilitation, education, environmental monitoring and cleanup, emergency response, homeland security, and entertainment. The center provides a tight-knit foundation for collaboration and opportunities for education and outreach.

**Outcomes and impact:** In the first year of the program we focused on inviting a slate of visitors (below) for short visits (< 3 days) to USC (Prof Rossmann's visit was of longer duration). In each case below, the visitor gave a seminar at USC and met CRES faculty and graduate students. In some cases the visit resulted in a new collaboration or renewed an existing relationship.

1. **Hanumant Singh**, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
2. **Juergen Rossmann**, University of Aachen
3. **Rich Sutton**, University of Alberta
4. **Frank Dellaert**, Georgia Tech
5. **Sunil K. Agrawal**, University of Delaware
6. **Pascal Fua**, EPFL Switzerland
7. **Luis Sentis**, Stanford

8. **Volkan Isler**, University of Minnesota
9. **Steve Cousins**, Willow Garage  
**Brian Gerkey**, Willow Garage
10. **Daphne Koller**, Stanford
11. **Kanna Rajan**, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
12. **Russ Tedrake**, MIT
13. **Andrew Y. Ng**, Stanford