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Program Information

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Florida Matters "Florida's Robots " (June 15, 2007)



A robot arm being developed at the USF Department of Mechanical Engineering in Tampa. Photo: Brad Stager

We've come a long way from the mechanical robots of 1950s and 1960s science fiction stories. Robots today are science fact -- and some of the leading research in robotics is taking place right here in the Tampa Bay area. This week we explore where the science is heading, and look ahead to the ethics of how we might interact with robots in the future.

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WUSF's Carson Cooper visits a robotics lab at USF in Tampa.



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This week's guests:

Dr. Redwan Alqasemi, [USF Department of Mechanical Engineering](#)

Merry Lynn Morris, MFA Dance Performance & Choreography,
[USF Theatre & Dance Program](#)

Kelly Hills, Research Coordinator at the [Alden March Bioethics Institute](#)

Online Resources

[USF Department of Mechanical Engineering](#)

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[Revolutions Dance](#)

[Rolling Dance Chair Project](#)

[Three Laws of Robotics – Wikipedia](#)

BELOW: Human acting robots? QRIO (originally named Sony Dream Robot or SDR) was a bipedal humanoid entertainment robot which stood approximately 2 feet tall and weighed 16 pounds. QRIO's slogan was "Makes life fun, makes you happy!" On January 26, 2006, Sony announced that it would stop development of QRIO.



Join WUSF's Carson Cooper for Florida Matters Friday evening at 6:30 PM, and Saturday at Noon, on WUSF 89.7, your NPR Station. Join WUSF's Carson Cooper for Florida Matters Friday evening at 6:00 PM, and Sunday at 10:00 AM, on WUSF 89.7, your NPR Station.

About Florida Matters

Florida Matters is WUSF 89.7's forum that goes beyond the daily headlines and explores issues that matter to you and your community.

Florida Matters addresses critical issues identified by listeners in our Ascertainment Survey 2006. The top five issues that matter most to you are: education, transportation, growth management, environment and affordable housing. Hear directly from decision makers, experts and other concerned citizens. Our purpose is not only to stimulate conversation, but to advance the discussion.

[Learn more](#) about WUSF's Ascertainment Survey 2006.

Florida Matters WUSF Host Carson Cooper



Carson Cooper

Carson Cooper has been a favorite of listeners as Host of "Morning Edition" on WUSF 89.7 since 2000. He also reports for other WUSF 89.7 broadcasts. Carson has worked in Tampa Bay radio for more than two decades.

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