

## 第8回 サイバニクス・サロン

日時：2009年9月30日（水） 17:00～18:30

場所：総合研究棟 B0108 室（1階） プレゼン交流サロン

話題提供者：Prof. Rafael Capurro

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Title : "Ethics & Robots. West and East "

[Abstract]

The talk deals with cultural and ethical questions of the design and use of robots in different areas of everyday life such as hotel, university, business, cleaning, entertainment, football, war, health care, love. It aims at presenting different approaches to these uses as currently discussed by roboticists and ethicists such as Hiroshi Kobayashi, Noel Sharkey. Robots could fill the jobs of 3.5 Million people in Japan by 2025 helping to avert worker shortages. They could also make time for people to focus on more important things. The discussion on both aspects, i.e., replacing people and "more important things" is an ethical one if one tries to identify the consequences for instance regarding health care: what does it mean that a robot "takes care" of a patient? Or what does it mean that robots will "alleviate" the shortage of the labor force? And eventually, what are the cultural and ethical implications of the use of robots in the mindsets of people? Ethics means to think about human rules of good/bad responsible behavior and on the ways we can problematize such moral rules as guiding our present identities. In other words, ethics is about questioning a given morality. The question of moral responsibility of robots, being one main point of discussion in Western countries can be seen differently within the background of Eastern (Buddhist) traditions. The talk will present briefly such themes aiming at opening a fruitful discussion with the participants.