



Robotic surgery among topics at premier medical imaging conference

MONTREAL (Nov. 12, 2003) – More than 500 of the world’s leading biomedical imaging scientists will gather here this weekend at a conference exploring the latest developments in medical imaging, robotics and computer-assisted therapies.

MICCAI 2003 (Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention) is the world’s premier forum bringing together clinicians, bio-scientists, computer scientists, engineers and others who are pioneering methods with a variety of applications, such as minimally invasive heart and brain surgery as well as image-guided biopsies and robotic therapy procedures in cancer treatment.

The conference runs at Fairmont -The Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal from Saturday, Nov. 15 to Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2003.

Among the goals of the conference are improving communication between scientific disciplines, making state-of-the-art methodology as accessible as possible to clinicians and bio-scientists, and helping basic scientists understand the detailed requirements in different clinical and bioscience applications.

“This is such an interdisciplinary field that communication among research groups worldwide and the cross-fertilization of ideas is absolutely essential for us all to move forward and avoid duplication,” says biomedical engineer Dr. Terry Peters, General Chair of MICCAI 2003 and Director of the Image-guided Surgery and Therapy Research Program at Robarts Research Institute in London, Ontario, which is hosting the Montreal event. “MICCAI provides the world’s top researchers with that unifying forum.”

The two-volume 1,700-page compendium of extensively reviewed scientific papers submitted to the annual conference, which last year was held in Tokyo, is considered the leading current resource in the field. Next year’s MICCAI conference will be held in Saint-Malo, France.

“Ground-breaking research, presented by renowned experts from around the world, is a MICCAI hallmark,” said Tony Niederer, Senior Manager, Marketing Services, NDI. “As Gold Sponsor of MICCAI 2003, NDI is honoured to be a long-time supporter of this conference and the innovation it represents in computer-assisted therapies.”

Waterloo, Ontario-based NDI is trusted by international leaders in medicine, industry and research for the accuracy and reliability of its measurement technology. NDI systems are used in applications from computer-assisted therapy to aeronautics; from quality inspection to human motion analysis. Today, the company is a world leader in advanced 3D measurement technology with offices in Canada, Germany and Hong Kong. The company has more than 5,000 installations in over 25 countries around the world.

Robarts Research Institute is Canada’s independent medical research facility, harnessing the power of cell biology, genomics and advanced imaging technologies to investigate disorders of the neurological, cardiovascular and immune systems.

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