

THAT AIN'T RIGHT: AI AND BLACK LIVES

CAL POLY ENGINEERING
DIVERSITY | INCLUSION
SPEAKER SERIES

Wednesday, Nov. 17
1-2:30 p.m.

Featuring:

Odest Chadwicke Jenkins

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science,
Associate Director of the Michigan Robotics Institute
University of Michigan

You are invited
to a Zoom meeting

Register in advance:

<https://calpoly.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZakceygrD0qE9ytgzdg1NhU6QuZ4I9daMSq>



How do we ensure equal opportunity in science and technology? It starts with how we invest in scientific research. Currently, when we make investments, we only think about technological advancement. Equal opportunity is a non-priority and, at best, a secondary consideration. The fix is simple really — and something we can do almost immediately: we must start enforcing existing civil rights statutes for how government funds are distributed in support of scientific advancement. This will mostly affect universities, as the spring well that generates the intellectual foundation and workforce for other organizations that are leading the way in artificial intelligence.

This talk will explore the causes of systemic inequality in AI, the impact of this inequity within the field of AI and across society today, and offer thoughts for the next wave of AI inference systems for robotics that could provide introspectability and accountability.

“Equal opportunity for anyone requires equal opportunity for everyone.”

Odest Chadwicke Jenkins, Ph.D., is a Professor of Computer Science and Engineering and Associate Director of the Robotics Institute at the University of Michigan. Prof. Jenkins earned his B.S. in Computer Science and Mathematics at Alma College (1996), M.S. in Computer Science at Georgia Tech (1998), and Ph.D. in Computer Science at the University of Southern California (2003). He previously served on the faculty of Brown University in Computer Science (2004-15). His research addresses problems in interactive robotics and human-robot interaction, primarily focused on mobile manipulation, robot perception, and robot learning from demonstration.



CAL POLY
College of Engineering