The HealthTech Weekly

October 29, 2018

Spotlight on:
Yaser Sheikh, PhD

Director, Facebook Reality Labs Pittsburgh
Associate Professor, Robotics Institute, CMU

Come hear Dr. Sheikh's keynote address
"Social Perception for Machines"
at our 4th Integrative Conference on Technology,
Social Media, and Behavioral Health.

Advanced registration ends Wednesday, October 31st!
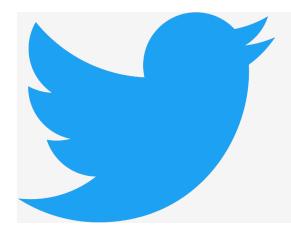**Click *here* to register before ticket prices increase!**

Dr. Sheikh studies computer
vision and how machines can be
equipped with social perception
to partner with clinicians.

See a preview of the Center's
interview with Dr. Sheikh below,
and click here for the full text!

CBHST: Can you explain what it means to research computer vision and social perception?

Yaser: It's incredible how much we as humans can extract from our interactions- what someone intends to do, what they want to convey- from just looking at subtle facial expressions, hand gestures, slumped shoulders, or a small twitch. We use all of these cues to collaborate and work with other people. These are all signals that, today, machines are largely blind to. Cameras can record them, but machines have no way interpreting them and don't know how to respond to them. This, I believe, is one of the main reasons why machines today are tools for us, not partners. In the future of AI and robotics, one of the main goals is to endow machines with the ability to understand what we mean when we shrug our shoulders or raise our eyebrows, and that's the general focus of our work.

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