



OAU

Canada's
Open
University

Research Cluster is...



A HOTSPOT of interest at the university

A group of researchers, students and other interested people working on a focussed area.

Promotes ideation, cross fertilization of ideas, funding proposals for large projects, and action on smaller projects.

How you can be involved...

A graphic on the left side of the slide consisting of three concentric semi-circles. The outermost semi-circle is orange, the middle one is grey, and the innermost one is yellow. They are all centered vertically and extend from the left edge of the slide towards the right, where they meet the text boxes.

Cluster

Associate Member – for interest, join the contact list, actively participate in meeting discussions and blogs

Research Member – active participant in researching

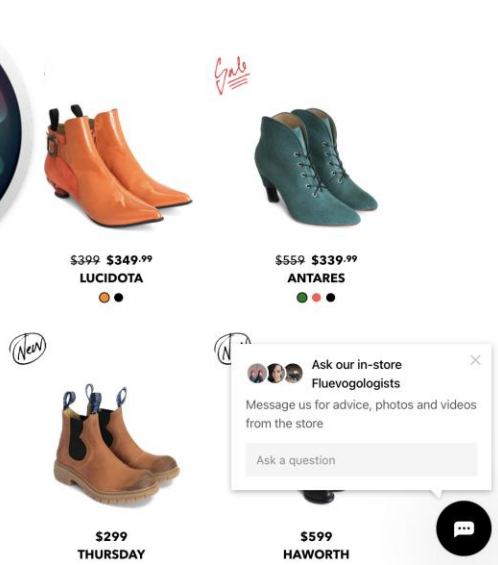


**Athabasca
University**

Research Clusters

Virtual Agent Lab

Virtual Agents are...



Cortana, book a meeting with Henry next week



And used for:

- (improved) customer experience
- Service provision
- Agent to agent communications for service
- Education
- Personal assistants
- Health and wellness



Research focus:

- Application and advancement of virtual agents as pedagogical devices
- Application and advancement of virtual agents as student learning companions
- Ethical challenges of the use of virtual agents

Cluster focus:

- Reviews technology and operations of virtual agents and multi agent system
- Case studies of virtual agents and their uses / operations
- CUI/VUIs and accessibility



Why students get involved...

Benefits – connection to research base of AU, provides experience how research theory gets applied to innovation and transfers to the workplace.

Involvement – Access to relevant literature and research presentations on virtual agents; feedback and presentation opportunities for own research on virtual agents.



EXTERNAL

<https://virtualagentlab.blogspot.com>

DETAILS

<https://landing.athabasca.ca/groups/profile/12483512/virtual-agent-lab>

VIRTUAL AGENT LAB

SEARCH

HOME RESEARCHERS

The Virtual Agent Lab is a research cluster hosted by Dr Stella George, currently at Athabasca Univ.

Meeting #6 (2022/11/04)

October 13, 2022

The November meeting of the Virtual Agent Lab will focus on examples of chatbots in education settings.

SHARE

READ MORE

Recent posts

Meeting #5 (2022/09/01)

August 30, 2022

In addition to the monthly update for the Virtual Agent Lab This lightning meeting (30 mins only) will focus on compiling some recommended reads from the chatbot world. Your input is sought. Contact cluster lead Stella George for more information

Explore the Landing You Your Network Groups Create & Share

Groups > Virtual Agent Lab

Virtual Agent Lab

Actions

ABOUT

RECENT ACTIVITY

BOOKMARKS

VIRTUAL AGENT LAB

Brief description: Discussion Forum and resource sharing for Virtual Agents Research Cluster.

Tags (comma separated):

SCIS, FST, virtual agents, chatbots, conversational bots, NLP

Website: <https://virtualagentlab.blogspot.com>

Type of group:

research

Owner: Stella George

Group members: 14

Open group

Add widgets

Virtual Agent Lab

The next meeting of the Virtual Agent Lab will be held via Teams on Friday November 4th 2022 at 1:30pm (MT) 3:30pm ET; 12:30 PT; 8:30pm GMT.

This sixth meeting of VALab will be a review of approaches to VAs as educational companions.

[Join Teams Meeting](#)

Stella.

A research cluster is a group of researchers, students and other interested people working on a focussed area. Promotes ideation, cross fertilization of ideas, funding proposals for large projects, and action on smaller projects.

Virtual agents are: chatbots, pedagogical agents, service agents, conversational agents, QandA bots, personal assistants



Virtual Agent Lab
Discussion Forum and resource sharing for Virtual Agents Research Cluster.

Open group

Group activity

Group blog

Group bookmarks

Group calendar

Group discussion

Group featured content

Group files

Group photo albums

Group photos

Group polls

Group wikis

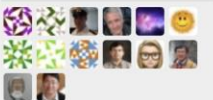
Related groups

Manage invitations

Search in this group

Go

Group members



View all members

For students, this cluster will provide opportunity to:

- learn about the theoretical bases of virtual agents
- learn about the application of virtual agents
- learn about ethics in the application of virtual agents
- connect with professors who might then become their supervisors
- present their research and receive feedback
- discover funded opportunities for in the field of virtual agents.



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