

Dear Swarmathon Students,

Congratulations on your selection for the Robotics Science and Systems (RSS) workshop "Become a Swarm Robotics Hacker Overnight", taking place July 15th and 16th at Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts! You are also registered for the full conference which starts on July 12th. This email contains important contact and schedule information.

Meet with conference organisers at White Hall Dining Commons between 5:30-8:00pm on Tuesday, July 11th to receive your welcome packets. The welcome packets include meal tickets which you will need for meals at Lesley University.

Our team:

The workshop organisers are Melanie Moses, Joshua Hecker, Matthew Fricke (me), and Sarah Salmonson. At the workshop, Jarett Jones, Antonio Griego, Jake Nicol, Val Sheffey, Manny Merez, Tobi Ogunyale and Kelsey Geiger will provide technical support and code guidance.

Contact information:

Please contact me or Sarah Salmonson if you have questions or need help. Our cell phone numbers are available in the original emails we sent to all attendees. When texting please sign your name so we know who is contacting us.

Matthew Fricke (<http://fricke.co.uk>)

Email: mfricke@unm.edu.

Sarah Salmonson

Email: sherbet@unm.edu

If you have a true emergency, dial 911.

RSS Conference:

Conference Website: <http://www.roboticsconference.org/>

Location: Kresge Auditorium at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Map: <https://whereis.mit.edu/?go=W16>)

Take the No. 1 bus from the stop at Massachusetts Ave at Johnston Gate (½ mile from Lesley University White Hall) to the MIT stop. Kresge Auditorium is 1/10 of a mile from there.

For those who would like to take the bus to the conference together, we will meet at the White Hall Commons cafeteria at 8:15am after breakfast.

Workshop:

The workshop will be held in the auditorium in Washburn Hall at Lesley University (Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/PWBoEatGVbv>).

Workshop agenda: <http://nasaswarmathon.com/rssworkshop/>.

We will have presentations by leading researchers in Swarm robotics during the day. See the online agenda for times.

You will also be invited to take part in a hackathon. The hackathon is an overnight challenge in which you and your teammates will write code that enables swarmie robots to collect targets using position data provided by remote cameras. There will be obstacles in the environment that your robots will have to navigate around.

There will be 5 teams of 5 students. Each teams will be assisted by a member of our technical support group.

All teams will have access to physical rovers. However much of your development is expected to be done using the Gazebo simulator. We will provide a laptop for each team but if you have a laptop capable of running the simulation it would be a good idea to bring it.

The winning team will be awarded \$1,000 (\$200 for each team member).

Lesley Dorm Information:

You'll be provided a fitted sheet, a flat sheet, a pillow, a pillowcase, a blanket and two towels. You will need to bring your own toiletries and other personal items.

You can check in and check out between 9am and 9pm at the Residence Life Office located at

9 Mellen Street, Cambridge, Mass.

Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/DxJJz3wJFEx>

If you need to check in or out during a time outside of this range then call the Lesley Public Safety office at (617) 349-8888. A staff member will assist you in checking in or out at the residence life office.

Wifi is available. The residence office will provide the wifi login and password when you check in.

Please call Lesley University Summer Housing at (617) 349-8560 if you have questions about your accommodations.

Meals:

Your meals will be at the White Hall Dining Commons cafeteria (Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/SjrWH7u9GWP2>), except during the conference when they will be at Kresge Auditorium at MIT.

You must bring your meal tickets to every meal. Meal tickets for the week are in your welcome packets.

Breakfast: 7:00 am - 10:00 am

Lunch: 12 pm - 1:00 pm (at the conference), 11 am - 2:00pm (at the workshop)

Dinner: 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Flights:

Your flight information is attached to this email.

Getting around Boston:

The residence halls, dining hall and workshop location are very near one another. To get to Lesley University from the airport, travel to/from the conference or for general travel around Boston, consider taxis, public transportation or Lyft ridesharing

(<https://www.lyft.com/airports/bos>). If you're new to Lyft, coupons are available here: <https://www.lyft.com/promo-coupon-code-free-rides>.

Let us know if you have any questions. See you in Boston!

All the best,

Matthew