

The MIT Cool Japan research project
Women's & Gender Studies and
Comparative Media Studies colloquium series presents:

Gendering Robots:

Posthuman Sexism in Japan

a lecture and discussion with

Prof. Jennifer Robertson

Anthropology Department
University of Michigan

March 5, 2009 (Thursday)

5:00 - 7:00 pm

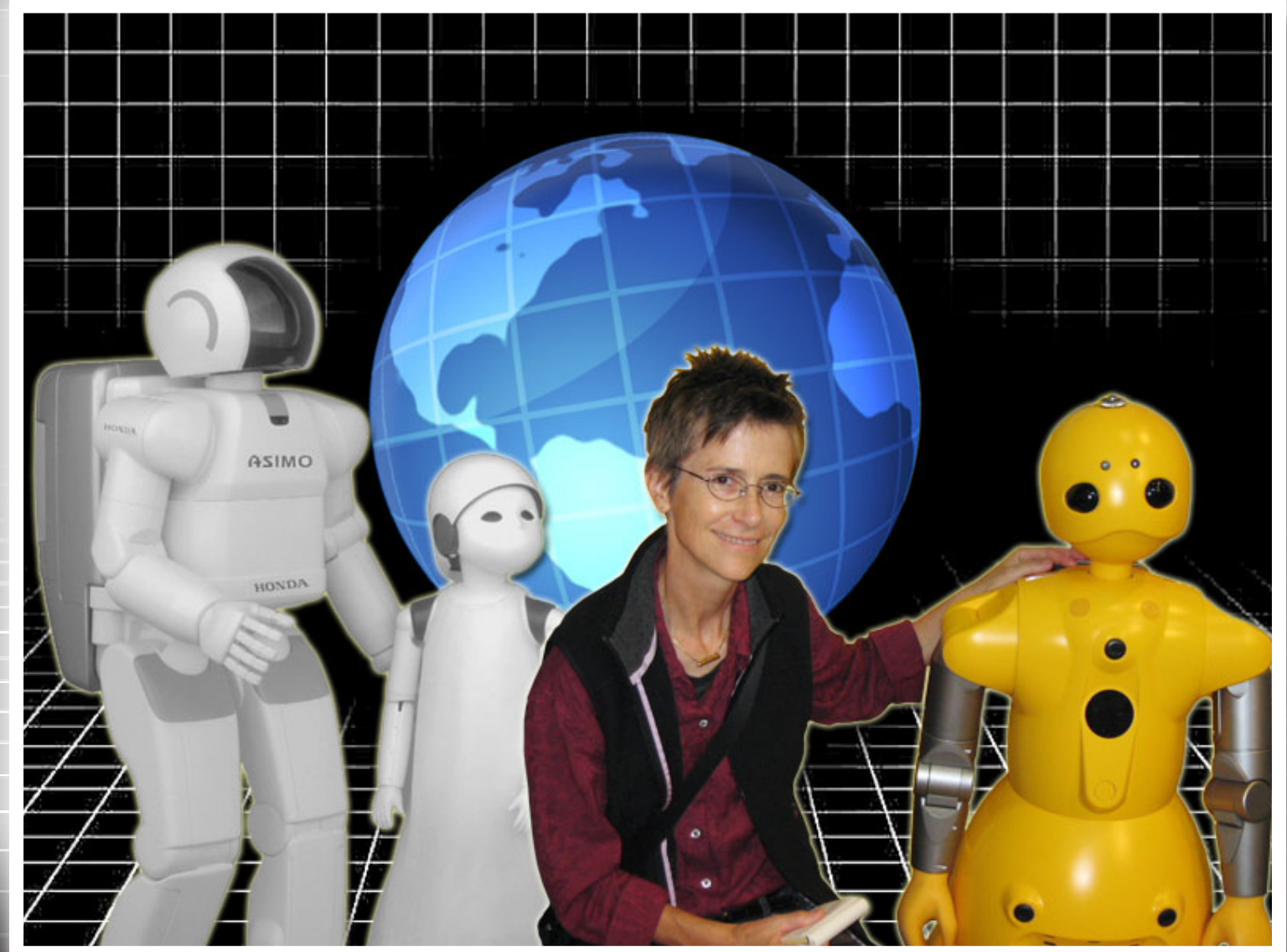
Room 32-141

Stata Center, MIT

Free and open to the public

Reception to follow

Robertson explores and interrogates the gendering of humanoid robots manufactured today in Japan for use in the home and workplace. She shows that Japanese roboticists assign gender to their creations based on rigid assumptions about female and male sex and gender roles. Thus, humanoid robots can productively be understood as the vanguard of a "posthuman sexism," and are being developed in a socio-political climate of reactionary conservatism.



Organized by:

The MIT/Harvard Cool Japan Research Project
Contacts: 617-253-4771
Alison Howard-Yilmaz (alisonhy@mit.edu)
Prof. Ian Condry (condry@mit.edu)

www.mitcooljapan.com

Sponsored by:

The MIT Japan Program, the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard, MIT Foreign Languages & Literatures, MIT Program in Women's and Gender Studies, and MIT Comparative Media Studies.

Poster design: Jeffrey Pearlman