Engineering Research Empowers Tribal Youth



Terry Bahill
Emeritus Professor, Systems Engineering and of Biomedical Engineering

CURRENT RESEARCH

Improving health in the Tohono O'odham Nation

In the last half century, obesity and type 2 diabetes have become prevalent among tribal members of the Tohono O'odham Nation. In addition, to declines in health, the tribal culture has become particularly threatened. Dr. Terry Bahill, of the University of Arizona, uses engineering research to create applications that are valuable to individuals. Likewise, his most recent project aims to create a computer system, called MATOH, that will encourage the children of the Tohono O'odham Nation who have problems with obesity and type 2 diabetes to get active while teaching them about their traditions and culture. In the past, efforts to improve the health of the O'odham Nation have been unsuccessful or lacked cultural sensitivity. Therefore, Dr Bahill's approach holds promise for the many children belonging to the O'Odham Nation who are typically underserved.

Dr. Bahill's previous work includes modeling physiological systems, using engineering tools and techniques to measure, model, and understand the human control of movement and adding to the science of baseball where he sought to model the physics behind baseball. Thus, his expertise in developing models and conducting rigorous yet applicable research has been thoughtfully supported. The current MATOH project requires three unprecedented tasks: matching free-form text, comparing unformatted sounds and matching images from multiple directions. Dr. Bahill's collaborative team will use their varying expertise to develop a system capable of application within the O'Odham schools. In short, Dr. Bahill's research ranges in application but all the while stays true to his expertise in modeling and creating systems.

Dr. Bahill's projects include:

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AFFILIATION



University of Arizona

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, 1975 University of California, Berkeley
- MSEE in Electrical Engineering, 1970
 San Jose State University
- San Jose State University
- BSEE with distinction, Electrical Engineering, 1967
 University of Arizona

AWARDS

- Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), 2011
- Sandia National Laboratories Gold President, 2001
- Raytheon Missile Systems Engineering Fellow, 2000
- Fellow of the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE), 1998
- Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), 1992

RESEARCH AREAS

Technology, Informational Sciences / Internet, Photonics / Imaging, IOT, Devices, Data

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Bahill as he develops a computer system that will engage ordinarily underserved children. Donations will support the one million dollars needed for personnel and hardware. However, incremental donations will be incredibly beneficial to the overarching mission of the project. In choosing to donate, you will help the children of the Tohono O'odham Nation who might struggle with obesity and diabetes.

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