COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

Distinguished Lecture
Thursday, December 17, 2015, 3:30pm

Machines of Loving Grace: Terminator Anxiety, or Will the Robots Arrive Just in Time?

John Markoff (New York Times)

Atrium, Paul G. Allen Center for Computer Science & Engineering

Abstract

We have quickly moved from the Internet era to the AI era. Personal computers are beginning to grow legs and walk around in the world. Increasingly many of our interactions are with proxies rather than directly with other people. Science fiction notwithstanding, these systems are designed by humans, and they encompass the values of their designers. The question remains, will they be our slaves, masters, or partners?

Bio

John Markoff, senior writer for *The New York Times*, writes for the paper's science section.

He began writing about technology in 1976 and joined *The Times* in 1988. He gained some notoriety several years ago when he stated that he thought blogs might be the CB radio of the 21st century. He still believes that.

In 2013, he was part of the team awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting "for its penetrating look into business practices by Apple and other technology companies that illustrates the darker side of a changing global economy for workers and consumers."