



Title: Robot-Mediated Learning: Exploring School-Deployed Collaborative Robots

Veronica Ahumada-Newhart, PhD

NSF Award Number: 2136847

Dates: 2020-2023

Project type: Developing and Testing Innovations (DTI)

Project URL: <u>https://health.ucdavis.edu/pediatrics/research/TASCLab.html</u>

Project Overview: Advance robot-mediated learning in schools and investigate how collaborative tele-robots can facilitate optimal learning experiences.

Robot-Mediated Learning includes remote children and educators in co-design processes to identify the unique learning needs and robot-mediated learning tasks that contribute to optimal learning.

Lessons Learned & Insights Gained

- Urgent need to use interactive inclusive technologies beyond static platforms such as Zoom or online schools
- Create best practices and guidelines that incorporate social norms for daily co-robot interactions

Equity

We conduct research with public school partners to ensure that robots are distributed to students regardless of income, race/ethnicity, or inequitable social influences.

New Challenges & Next Steps

- We reconsidered our approach to conducting research in physical schools as COVID risks continued to be an issue for most of our participants.
- We designed, and are currently piloting, new ways to collect data with minimal risk to participants.
- In the year ahead we will be conducting research in new learning spaces with novel approaches.