

Prof. Dan Zhang is a Kaneff Professor in Advanced Robotics and Mechatronics in the Department of Mechanical Engineering of the Lassonde School of Engineering at York University. From July 1st 2004 to December 31 2015, Prof. Zhang was a Professor and Canada Research Chair in Advanced Robotics and Automation, was a founding Chair of the Department of Automotive, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Engineering with the Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science at University of Ontario Institute of Technology. He received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Laval University, Canada, in June 2000.

Prof. Zhang's research interests include robotics and mechatronics; high performance parallel robotic machine development; sustainable/green manufacturing systems; micro/nano manipulation and MEMS devices (sensors), micro mobile robots and control of multi-robot cooperation, intelligent servo control system for the MEMS based high-performance micro-robot; web-based remote manipulation; rehabilitation robot and rescue robot.

Prof. Zhang's contributions to and leadership within the field of robotic and automation have been recognized with several prestigious awards, within his own university (Research Excellence Award both from university level (2009) and faculty level (2008)), the Province of Ontario (Early Researcher Award in 2010), the professional societies (election to Fellow of the EIC in 2012 and the CSME in 2010), and federal funding agencies (Canada Research Chair in January 2009 and renewed in January 2014). Besides, he was awarded the Inaugural Teaching Excellence by the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science of UOIT in 2006 and the Best Professor Award by UOIT Engineering Students' Society in 2012.

Prof. Zhang has published 224 journal and conference papers, 4 books, 7 book chapters and numerous other technical publications. He is the editor-in-chief for International Journal of Mechanisms and Robotic Systems, the editor-in-chief for International Journal of Robotics Applications and Technologies, Associate editor for the International Journal of Robotics and Automation (ACTA publisher) and guest editors for other 4 international journals. Prof. Zhang served as a member of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Grant Selection Committee.

Prof. Zhang has been very successful in attracting multi-million external funding as a principal investigator or as a co-applicant since 2009, from government and industry funding agencies including Canada Research Chairs, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Discovery Grant, NSERC Research Tools and Instruments (RTI) Grant, Ministry of Research and Innovation Ontario (MRI), NRC, the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE), Ontario Research Fund – Research Excellence Fund (ORF), MITACS, Minerva Canada, ASI group, Matrex, Amico Corporation Inc., National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), ATS and many others.

Prof. Zhang was director of Board of Directors at Durham Region Manufacturing Association, Canada, and director of Board of Directors of Professional Engineers Ontario, Lake Ontario Chapter, Canada. Prof. Zhang is a registered Professional Engineer of Canada, a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada (EIC), and a Fellow of (Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering) CSME, a Senior Member of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), a Senior Member of SME, and ASME member.