



MONTHLY

A look into current and up-and-coming projects



Team Member Spotlight

Mario

Member since: the beginning

What motivated you to join IDEA Lab?

I have done many years of research with Dr. Lilian Hung. I enjoy working with students doing their post graduate work or even high school students who want to get involved and get an advance knowledge about teamwork.

I think the inclusion of patient partners in research gives an insight on sensitivities and needs of persons living with visible or invisible disability.

This brings a slightly different perspective and add value in the delivery of care for people living with dementia.

How would you describe the environment at the lab?

The team members are encouraged to try new and different ways, robust discussions that allow divergent opinions and then come to a conclusion that is satisfactory to the majority. This freedom gives them the confidence to try and innovate in their way of investigating and creating solutions that benefit a larger group.

What have you learnt from your time at the lab?

Tokenism is a big concern for people living with a disability. The IDEA Lab research is focused on people living with dementia and it is reassuring that every effort is made to make sure that their voices are heard and given an important role in the research. Patient partners are not a tick in the box and then ignored in decisions that affect the delivery of service and in their medical care. The IDEA Lab makes sure that their voices are acknowledged and included throughout the investigative process in conducting a research.

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Smart TV

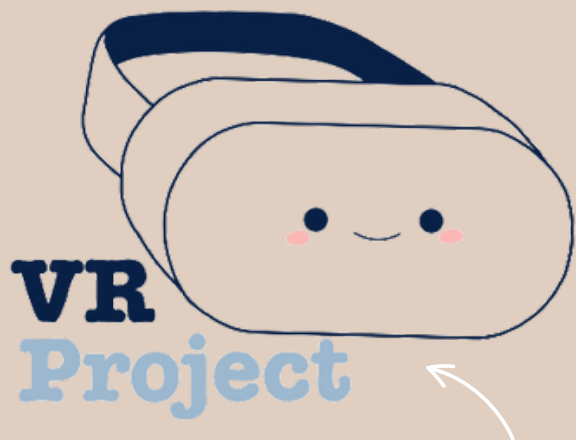


Karen Wong

We are moving to our second phase. In this phase, Zinnia TV will be implemented in long term care and geriatric units in hospitals. It will be used by different disciplines to support different aspects of well-being of people with dementia. Our team will check in with site champions and attend team huddles and take field notes on implementation.



Diane Pan recently designed these beautiful stickers for the Smart TV project!



Take a look at what our stickers look like!

Winnie and Isabella demonstrate a VR experience of swimming with dolphins to Dennis, a LTC home resident



Virtual Reality

Winnie Kan

We have begun meeting with long term care home sites and hosted some demo/engagement sessions with staff and residents! We have also designed tote bags and stickers, and hope to start conducting staff focus groups soon.

Here's a sneak peak of our engagement sessions with staff and residents at long term care homes



Spot our specially designed tote bag for the VR project



Telepresence Robot

Nazia Ahmed & Grace Hu

This project is currently in phase 2. We have recruited residents and are now collecting data. We trained families of four residents to connect to their loved ones in long-term care homes. Following training, we set up robots in residence rooms to help facilitate virtual visits. As the study progresses, we hope to hear from families, staff, and residents to learn how helpful or challenging the robots presence has been for everyone involved. These findings will help us adjust and optimize the robots use in order to serve residents in a personalized and meaningful manner.



As a token of gratitude for their continued support, our team got together over lunch with our patient partners and champions to discuss next steps.



Meet Ila, one of our resident's with her robot Kaffe! She now connects with her family more frequently and flexibly!



Here is a family member being trained to use one of our robots remotely

