Janet LaBreck, Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, visited USF and CARRT labs on Wednesday, July 9th along with the State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Director, Aleisa McKinlay and the Division of Blind Services Director, Robert Doyle among others.

They saw a live demonstration of the smart wheelchair mounted robotic arm system and its operation using the Brain-Computer interface. A demonstration of the smart hands-free wheelchair that can be controlled wirelessly with Android phones was also shown. A graduate student demonstrated an assistive device to help the blind navigate using laser and sensor technology. Virtual Reality for Vocational Rehabilitation project was demonstrated to show how VR technology can be used with various environments and distractors to train individuals with Autism, TBI and physical disabilities on specific skills that can be used in jobs. Also, CAREN (Computer Assisted Rehabilitation Environment) system was demonstrated with its moving base and instrumented treadmill.



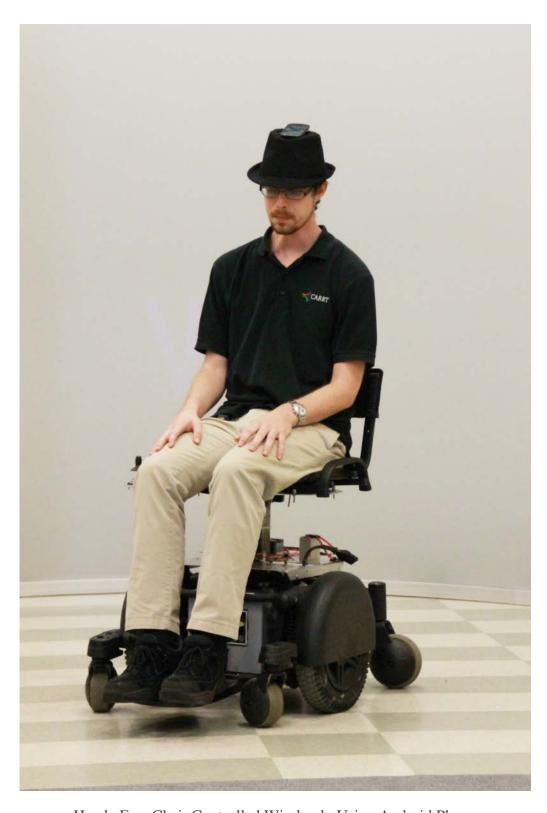
Wheelchair-Mounted Robotic Arm Controlled by a Brain-Computer Interface



Assistive Belt to assist the Blind in Navigation

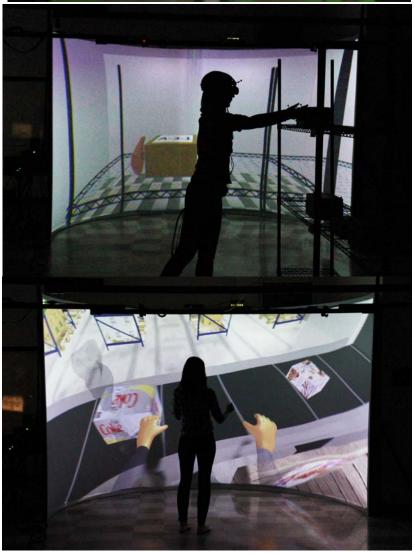


Commissioner LaBreck Using Omni Haptic Feedback to Read



Hands-Free Chair Controlled Wirelessly Using Android Phone





Virtual Reality for Vocational Rehabilitation During a Training Exercise



Welcoming CARRT Visitors and Talking About Various CARRT Projects



A Group Photo with CARRT Students/Faculty and the Visitors