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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZPPURdVjjQ&feature=youtu.be>

‘ROBOTABLE’ WINS FOUNDERS FACTORY & IMPERIAL COLLEGE ROBOTICS SOCIETY HACKATHON

Event uncovered top talent and ideas ahead of Founders Factory’s ‘Robot Restaurant’ London launch

LONDON: A robot to create the ‘tasting menu of the future’ took first prize at a hackathon organised by Founders Factory and Imperial College Robotics Society this weekend.

The event was set up to unearth the next generation of robotics talent and provide research and inspiration for Founders Factory’s ‘Robot Restaurant’ concept currently being built within its startup incubator. Teams were given 48 hours and a selection of basic equipment to develop and build out prototypes before presenting them to a judging panel.

Fifty Imperial College students teamed up to address one of three challenges faced by restaurants; how to reduce waste, increase efficiency in food preparation and create a novel dining experience.

The winning ‘RoboTable’ idea would provide diners with a randomly generated menu of ‘micro portions’ based on their data and adjust dishes according to their personal tastes.

Speaking at the event, **Brent Hoberman, Founders Factory Chairman and hackathon judge, said:** “We are just at the beginning of our journey with our own robot restaurant but many of the ideas we saw compliment our thinking of what is possible. RoboTable were worthy winners as they combined creativity, hardware and customer data to create the ‘Tinder for foodies’.

“This is the zeitgeist moment for robotics and food. It’s a combination of artificial intelligence and dropping prices of robotics meaning the practical implementation is coming into the real world, ideas are no longer gimmicks.”

Other finalists included ‘talking’ food which uses natural language processing to speak to diners; a mobile kitchen that creates healthy food on demand within secure lockers and a ‘dynamic restaurant’ where diners are sat according to food taste and similarities with other customers.

The judging panel was made up of Nick Popovici, co-founder of [Vita Mojo](#) a software and nutritious fast food chain, Suryansh Jalan, co-founder of new robotics company [Automata](#), Founders Factory’s Chief Scientist (and former Imperial researcher) Dr Jeffrey Ng and Claire Morris, Head of Design. Winners each received an Amazon Echo and a selection of electrical food gadgets.

Founders Factory is currently hiring a for its Robot Restaurant project. To find out more visit: <https://foundersfactory.com/jobs/>

ENDS.

Notes to editors:

For more information contact:

Amy Grimshaw, Head of PR, amy@foundersfactory.com +44 7817240004

About Founders Factory

Founders Factory is a new model in business creation, with genuine ambition and breadth, backed by some of the world's leading corporates across six sectors: L'Oréal (Beauty), easyJet (Travel), Aviva (Fintech), Holtzbrinck (Education), Guardian Media Group (Media) and CSC Group (Artificial Intelligence).

Founders Factory's in-house team is also composed of digital experts, many of whom are successful entrepreneurs themselves.

Positioned at the very heart of the global tech community and benefiting from its strong links to Founders Forum, Founders Factory is building and scaling over 200 early stage technology companies across six sectors within five years.

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About Imperial College Robotics Society

Imperial College Robotics Society is a student-led university club aiming to increase robotics interest at Imperial College London and across the UK. We run workshops, competitions and lectures to teach about robotics, electronics and software as well as providing help (financial and technical) to students looking to start a robotics project.

http://icrobotics.co.uk/wiki/index.php/Main_Page