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Prof. Dr. Karsten Berns studied computer science with a focus on artificial intelligence at the University of Kaiserslautern (1982-1988). He received his doctorate from the University of Karlsruhe in 1994 for his research on "Neural networks for the control of a six-legged walking machine". As head of department at the Research Center for Computer Science, Karlsruhe (until 1994 - 2003), he investigated adaptive control concepts for various types of service robots. Since 2003 he has been a full professor at the RPTU Kaiserslautern-Landau.

Current research activities at the RPTU are the realization of reliable, complex, autonomous robot systems. He and his department are developing the Finroc robot middleware, the iB2C behavior-based control architecture and various verification methods. The main applications come from off-road robotics, in which autonomous or semi-autonomous vehicles such as small trucks, excavators, combine harvesters, tractors and rescue robots have been realized. In the field of humanoid robots, the android systems ROBIN and EMAH are being investigated for human-robot interaction and new approaches to bipedal walking are being researched.