

# Personal Statement

As Candidate for IFAAMAS Board Membership (2018)

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## Brief Bio

I am a senior lecturer in the School of Computing and Communications at Lancaster University. I obtained a PhD in computer science from North Carolina State University in 2008. I also did a postdoctoral stint at the University of Trento.

I am interested in the software engineering (SE) of multiagent systems. Over the last fifteen years, I have developed high-level abstractions, languages, and methodologies for modeling interactions in multiagent systems. I have published ten full papers in the AAMAS conferences and several more in its workshops.

## Professional Service

I first attended AAMAS in 2004 and then every year from 2008-2016. I have served on the AAMAS Program Committee (PC) every year since 2010. In 2011 and 2017, I was Senior PC member. I was a finalist in 2010 for Best PC member. I have also served on the PC of IJCAI (2011, 2016, 2017, 2018). I was Program Chair for PRIMA 2016 (International Conference on Principles and Practice of Multiagent Systems.)

I was Sponsorship Chair for AAMAS in 2013 and 2016 and Publicity Chair in 2015. I have organized four AAMAS workshops, one each in 2010 (Agent Communication), 2013 (COIN), 2014 (Social Computing), and 2015 (Social Computing). I have given three tutorials at AAMAS, one in 2015 and two in 2016. I was co-organizer of the Dagstuhl Seminar on Normative Multiagent Systems in 2015.

In addition, I am the Senior Associate Editor of the ACM Transactions on Internet Technologies. In my role, I have encouraged and overseen the development of several special issue proposals on multiagent themes such as trust, ethics and accountability, provenance, argumentation, event recognition, and so on. I myself guest-edited two special issues with such an emphasis.

## Indicative Agenda

In the interests of wider dissemination and cross-fertilization of ideas, collocation with IJCAI, ECAI, and ICML in 2018 is a welcome step. We should do more of this, but not just with the AI-type conferences though. For instance, we have ample synergies with Web and SE conferences and growing ones with hot areas such as IoT and security and privacy.

The introduction of Blue Sky and Industrial Applications tracks is a welcome development. I would welcome more innovation in the tracks and sessions. For example, with the aim of revitalizing workshops, we could perhaps devise a mechanism to nominate a few workshop papers for presentation in the conference (as we have already done for journal publications). We could also publish papers that present robust novel arguments and responses to them (as many venues already do) and organize a panel discussion around them.

The ideas of Agent-Oriented SE played a substantial role in the founding of the AAMAS community. Those ideas remain just as important as ever. Over the years though, the SE presence at AAMAS conferences feels much diminished (even as other SE conferences are growing). I will try to find ways to welcome a bigger presence for SE at AAMAS conferences (modulo fairness, of course).

In all my positions and efforts, I will remain open to suggestions by community members.