

Nomination for the IFAAMAS Board: Minming Li

Background:

Minming Li is an Associate Professor in Department of Computer Science, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China. He received his Ph.D. and Bachelor in Computer Science and Engineering from Tsinghua University in 2006 and 2002 respectively. Minming is best known for his work on energy efficient scheduling and facility location games. His other research interests include optimization in maintenance related scheduling and mechanism design for other problems like cake cutting, network games and scheduling games. He has published extensively on these topics in AAMAS, AAI, and IJCAI, although entering this field in a relatively later stage compared to many people who started in AAMAS from their Ph.D. study. This is also why Minming thinks that AAMAS could be promoted more to the research community not only starting from training students within the community. People working in other related areas previously can also be attracted to AAMAS community since AAMAS is the flagship conference on multiagent systems which is truly interdisciplinary in nature.

Service to AAMAS and other communities:

Minming is at the intersection of theory community, AI community and Operations Research community. He has been an active member of the AAMAS community, participating in most of the recent AAMAS conferences since 2015 and has been PC since then. He is also a Technical Committee Member of the newly established Multiagent Systems Professional Group in China under CCFAI. In addition to his involvement with the AAMAS community, Minming is also an active member in the AAI and IJCAI communities, where he serves in their program committees contiguously over the past years. For the theory community, Minming has been organizing conferences COCOA and FAW as TPC chairs and will organize ISAAC as TPC co-chair in 2020 in Hong Kong. He is also a Technical Committee Member of the Theoretical Computer Science chapter of CCF, China. For the Operations Research community, Minming has been serving as Director of Operations Research Society of China since 2016 and actively participated in their activities. He is Associate Editor for OR journals like Omega and Journal of Scheduling and also theory journals like Journal of Combinatorial Optimization.

If elected: My main goal is to promote AAMAS in the following two directions.

1. In terms of fields, bring more people from other disciplines to AAMAS to enrich the problems studied by the AAMAS community and also make the works published in AAMAS have more impact in other communities. Minming's unique research profile enables him to reach researchers from theory, business and AI community and therefore can achieve this goal to a greater extent. Around me, my research collaborators and friends (especially those in China) know more about AAMAS in my recent communication with them.
2. In terms of regions, advocate AAMAS to researchers in Hong Kong and further the whole China to broaden the coverage of AAMAS to the world. My collaborators have industrial connections to companies like Huawei, Tencent and Didi, having completed several projects related to them. I also know quite some people in the senior management of big IT companies. Recently, I am collaborating with an aviation planning company about the potential projects. Joint funding application with Mainland China which I am now doing actively will also be able to promote AAMAS in China. I can work closely with people in Multiagent Systems Professional Group in China and also Operations Research Society of China and Theoretical Computer Science chapter of CCF to promote AAMAS.