Natasha Alechina

IFAAMAS Board Nomination Statement

Bio

Natasha Alechina is an Associate Professor in the Intelligent Systems group at the Department of Information and Computing Sciences, Utrecht University, The Netherlands.

She received her undergraduate degree from the Department of Philosophy of Moscow State University, specialising in logic, and her PhD from the University of Amsterdam in 1995. From 1996–1998 she was a research fellow at the School of Computer Science, University of Birmingham, working on the theory of relational databases. She worked at the School of Computer Science, University of Nottingham from 1998 to 2019, co-leading Agents Lab since 2007. Her current research spans several areas of agent systems, including: orchestration/strategy synthesis for teams of agents, assigning responsibility in teams of human and AI agents, algorithms for verification and synthesis under resource constraints, and incentivising normative monitoring in open systems. She has published over 100 papers in top international venues, in particular 22 papers and abstracts in AAMAS.

Service to the community

Natasha Alechina has served on AAMAS PC or SPC since 2008. She was scholarship co-chair at AAMAS 2017 and JAAMAS track chair for AAMAS 2018. She has co-presented AAMAS tutorials, courses at the European Agent Systems Summer School and courses and workshops at the European Summer School for Logic, Language and Information. She is active in the international logic community and is currently the secretary of the Foundation for Logic, Language and Information.

Issues to address

The area of logics for multi-agent systems and verification and synthesis of multi-agent systems is under-represented on IFAAMAS board. Since this area accounted for 10-14% of accepted papers in the 2015-2019 AAMAS conferences (fewer in AAMAS 2020), it would be good to change this. Natasha Alechina will be championing logic-related work at AAMAS and fostering interactions between symbolic and sub-symbolic AI for agent research, such as, for example, providing guarantees on results of learnt behaviours.