

Michal Pechoucek Candidacy for IFAAMAS Board

Michal Pechoucek is ready to support the AAMAS community and agrees to stand for the membership in the IFAAMAS board of directors.

Michal Pechoucek is a full professors in cybernetics (equivalent to computer science) at the Czech Technical University (CTU). He is the Deputy Chairman for research at the Department of Computer Science at CTU. In 2000 he has founded the multiagent group at CTU which he turned into the CTU Agent Technology Center in 2008 and still heading the center since. The center consist of around 30 members (faculty members, postdoc researchers and PhD students) who study the aspect of agent-based computing and multiagent systems. While keeping basic research focus, Michal oriented the center towards agent application and industrial cooperation and he helped his former PhD students to start two spinoff companies (AgentFly Technologies and Cognitive Security). Michal is also very active in education. At CTU, He started the research oriented computer science programme Open Informatics and introduced Agent-based computing as a mandatory course. Throughout his research career Michal worked as a postdoc researcher at University of Calgary, as a visiting researcher at University of Edinburgh and visiting professor at SUNY Binghamton and University of Southern California (TEAMCORE).

Michal has been an active contributor to the AAMAS community. Throughout the years he was an SPC member, he helped to introduce the concept of industry track into AAMAS, of which he was the first co-chair in 2005 in Utrecht. In 2012 Michal is helping to organize AAMAS as scholarship co-chair. He was also a member of the management committee of the AgentLink III, responsible for industrial involvement, he is the member of the Advisory Board of the European Agent Systems Summer School (where he is delivering the application oriented course) and the member of the board of directors of EURAMAS (European Association for Multi-agent Systems). In 2004-2005 Michal also served as the EUMAS (European workshop on multi-agent systems) Advisory Board Chair. Michal was one of the two founding chairs of the series of the industrial oriented conferences HoloMAS (Industrial Applications of Holonic and Multi-Agent Systems). He has been also active in the region of central and eastern Europe through his membership in CEEMAS (Central European Conference on Multi-Agent Systems) steering committee and being the programme co-chair in 2003 and 2005.

If elected Michal will make his best effort to support the young generation of the AAMAS community, will communicate with the above listed European agent initiatives and will try to represent the researchers with the interests in agent applications.

Michal is interested multi-agent simulation and modeling, multi-agent planning, multi-agent prototypes and test-beds and applications of agent-based computing into security applications and air-traffic control. He is the author of more than 20 contributions to SCI impacted journal and more than 200 papers in other referred journals and conference proceedings. His work has been cited by more than 300 citations in ISI/WOS databases. With the team of co-authors, he has been awarded by several best-paper awards and nominations, best demo awards (never at AAMAS though). He and his team have received the Engineering academy of the Czech Republic in 2007, Google Research Award in 2009 and prestigious prize Czech Mind for Invention in 2010. In 2011 Michal received Fulbright scholarship for his stay at USC, TEAMCORE.

Scientific contributions of Michal Pechoucek and his support provided to the agent research community as well as his continual evangelizing of agent-based technologies make him an excellent candidate for the IFAAMAS board membership.