Prof. Takayuki Ito is an associate professor at the computer science department and the school of techno-business management at Nagoya Institute of Technology (Japan), and a visiting scientist at the Center for Collective Intelligence at MIT Sloan School of Management (2008-present). He received his Ph.D. degree from the Nagoya Institute of Technology (Japan) in 2000. He was a visiting researcher at University of Southern California (2000-2001) and also a holder of a JSPS research fellow (1999-2001), and an associate professor of Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (JAIST) (2001-2003). He joined Nagoya Institute of Technology as an associate professor in 2003. He was invited as a visiting researcher at Harvard University and MIT Sloan School of Management (2005-2006).

He received many research awards including the PREST Fund (Super Challenging Type) from Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), 2009; Young Scientists' Prize from Japanese Government, 2007; Nagao Special Research Award of the Information Processing Society of Japan, 2007; Best Paper Award of AAMAS2006; Best Paper Award from Japan Society for Software Science and Technology, 2005; and the Super Creator Award of 2004 IPA Exploratory Software Creation Projects. He served as a PC chair at PRIMA2009, SPC at AAMAS2007-2008 and IJCAI2009, and a PC chair at JAWS2006. He has also organized a number of workshops and tutorials at AAMAS, and other major MAS conferences.

His research goal is to understand the real-world consensus mechanism, which enables people to make a consensus in spite of many economic “impossibility” theorems. To realize this goal, he is mainly focusing on three themes: computational mechanism design theories, automated negotiation models, and practical applications/implementations/systems for group/collective decision supports.

We believe that he will bring a practical view to IFAAMAS with focus on the principles of practice in autonomous agents and multiagent systems. These principles encourage systems, tools, programming languages, agent simulations, software engineering, robotics, virtual agents, industrial applications, as well as theories. PRIMA2009 was one of the successful examples on this direction, where he acted vividly as a PC-chair and updated the conference theme to “Principles of Practice in Multi-agent Systems”.