

Conitzer Nomination for IFAAMAS Board

Vincent Conitzer is an Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Economics at Duke University, Durham, NC, USA. He received Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Computer Science from Carnegie Mellon University (advised by Tuomas Sandholm), and an A.B. degree in Applied Mathematics from Harvard University. He grew up in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. As a result, every year at the annual AAMAS soccer/football game, he struggles with the question of whether to play for the American or the European team, thereby managing to be viewed as a traitor by both. Vince also has an uncanny ability to then pick the team that ends up losing, for which there is perhaps a good explanation.

Vince's research focuses on the use of techniques from microeconomics in multiagent systems, in particular game theory, mechanism design, voting/social choice, and auctions. He has authored or co-authored over 80 papers on these topics, including 12 AAMAS papers and a JAAMAS paper. He has received several awards, including an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship (2008), an Honorable Mention for the 2007 ACM Doctoral Dissertation Award, the 2006 IFAAMAS Victor Lesser Distinguished Dissertation Award, the AAMAS Best Program Committee Member Award (2006), and an IBM Ph.D. Fellowship (2005). He is a co-author on papers that received a AAAI-08 Outstanding Paper Award and the AAMAS-08 Pragnesh Jay Modi Best Student Paper Award, with the latter having added meaning as Jay was a friend before his untimely death robbed the AAMAS community of one of its rising stars.

Vince has been on the PC/SPC for AAMAS since 2006, served as the Publicity Chair in 2008, as a Student Scholarship Co-Chair in 2010, and on the IFAAMAS Victor Lesser Distinguished Dissertation Award committee for the 2008 and 2009 conferences. Among other service to the community, he is also an associate editor for JAAMAS and JAIR and on the editorial board of AIJ, serves as editor-in-chief of SIGecom Exchanges, and is a program co-chair of COMSOC'10 and an area chair of AAAI'10.

If elected, Vince will support an inclusive approach to multiagent systems, with a focus on ensuring that the community does not act in a vacuum but rather continues its fruitful scientific interaction with other areas and disciplines. This involves using techniques from these other areas and disciplines, as well as effectively communicating the most relevant results from our community back to them. There are opportunities for this on both the experimental and the theoretical sides of our community.