IFAAMAS Board Elections 2024 Statement: Hau Chan

**Bio:** I am an assistant professor in the School of Computing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska, US. I obtained my Ph.D. in Computer Science from Stony Brook University in 2015, under the supervision of Luis Ortiz. I completed three years of Postdoctoral Fellowships, at Trinity University in 2015-2017, under the supervision of Albert Jiang, and at the Laboratory for Innovation Science at Harvard University in 2018, under the supervision of David Parkes and Karim Lakhani.

I have been conducting research in key areas of AI and multi-agent systems, focusing on game theory, mechanism design, and their applications. I have published around 68 papers at top AI conferences (AAAI, AAMAS, IJCAI, NeurIPS, and UAI) and journals (AIJ) and other interdisciplinary conferences (ECML/PKDD, SDM, ICDM, and WINE) and journals (DAMI, TEAC, TCS, ORL, and GEB). I have received a 2015 SIAM SDM Best Paper Award, a 2016 AAMAS Best Student Research Paper Award, a 2018 IJCAI Distinguished PC Member Recognition, a 2022 IJCAI Distinguished SPC Member Recognition, and a 2022 IJCAI Early Career Spotlight.

**Involvement with the AAMAS community:** I have attended the AAMAS conferences frequently since 2016 and am an author/co-author of ten AAMAS papers. I have been involved in organizations as a tutorial organizer (AAMAS 2019, AAMAS 2020, AAMAS 2022, and AAMAS 2023), a workshop organizer (AAMAS 2022, AAMAS 2023, and AAMAS 2024), a co-chair for the Doctoral Consortium (AAMAS 2021 and AAMAS 2022), a co-chair for Scholarships (AAMAS 2021 and AAMAS 2022), a co-chair for Diversity and Inclusion Activities (AAMAS 2022), a co-chair for finance (AAMAS 2023).

**Goals:** If elected, as an IFAAMAS board member, I will focus on the following two main goals:

1. **Creating Opportunities for Undergraduate and Graduate Students:**
   In recent years, there have been efforts to create activities for students in AI and multi-agent conferences. Currently, AAMAS has only the Doctoral Consortium designed specifically for graduate students to obtain feedback on their research and connect with senior members in the AAMAS community. As such, I would like to help create additional opportunities, including summer school programs (which were last held in AAMAS 2016), student abstract/poster programs (for undergraduate and graduate students), and welcoming activities for newcomers to AAMAS.

   For undergraduate students, I would like to create an undergraduate consortium, aiming to allow students to present preliminary research ideas, connect with graduate students or advisors, obtain advice on pursuing graduate students in AI and multiagent systems, and receive information/materials on applying and attending graduate schools. I would also like to extend the scholarship programs to consider undergraduate students for attending the AAMAS conference.

2. **Creating Early-Career Researcher Mentorship Opportunities:** Life after a graduate degree can be difficult for many early-career researchers. This is especially true when a researcher enters an academic environment as a faculty. Many do not have the necessary preparation and training for the various faculty roles. Early-career faculty mentorship has been linked to faculty success, and some environments might not have adequate mentoring resources. As such, I would like to develop faculty mentorship programs at AAMAS for early-career researchers. I will work with funding agencies (e.g., NSF, US Army, UKRI, and others) to provide grant-writing and reviewing workshops, connect early-career researchers to successful peers in their AAMAS areas, and develop faculty-peer networks in which early-faculty can collaborate together (e.g., on research and proposals).