FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AAAI announces newly-elected Fellows

Menlo Park, CA – June 16, 2008. Each year a small number of distinguished AI researchers are elected AAAI Fellows by the membership of AAAI for their unusual distinction in the profession and for their sustained contributions to the field for a decade or more.

The following individuals join an elite cadre of many outstanding individuals in the AI field. (For a complete list of AI Fellows please see http://www.aaai.org/Awards/fellows-list.php.)

Yoav S. Freund, University of California, San Diego
For significant contributions to machine learning including the development of practical boosting algorithms.

Maria L. Gini, University of Minnesota
For significant contributions to coordination and competition in multi-robot and multi-agent systems, for leadership in the AI community, and for inspiring the next generation.

Lydia E. Kavraki, Rice University
For significant contributions to the field of automated motion planning and the development of widely used probabilistic search algorithms.

Tuomas Sandholm, Carnegie Mellon University
For significant contributions to the foundations of multiagent systems and computational game theory, pioneering work in combinatorial auctions, multiagent preference elicitation, and automated mechanism design, and principles and large-scale application of electronic marketplaces.
Peter van Beek, University of Waterloo
For contributions to temporal reasoning, backtracking search algorithms, and constraint programming.

Toby Walsh, NICTA and University of New South Wales
For significant and sustained contributions to automated deduction and constraint programming, and for extraordinary service to the AI community.

Brian C. Williams, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
For significant contributions to model-based reasoning and autonomous systems, and the innovative application of AI to space exploration.

Michael John Wooldridge, University of Liverpool
For significant contributions to logical foundations and complexity analysis of multiagent systems, including formal theories of teamwork and agent-oriented software engineering.

An official dinner and ceremony will be held in their honor during the AAAI-08 Conference (http://www.aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI/aaai08.php) in Chicago, Illinois this July.

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About AAAI
Founded in 1979, the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (formerly the American Association for Artificial Intelligence) (www.aaai.org) is a nonprofit scientific membership society devoted to advancing the science and practice of AI. Its mission is to: (1) advance the scientific understanding of the mechanisms underlying intelligent thought and behavior, (2) facilitate their embodiment in machines, (3) serve as an information resource for research planners and the general public concerning trends in AI, and (4) offer training for the current and coming generations of AI researchers and practitioners. AAAI sponsors numerous conference, workshops, and symposia each year.