Prof. Amnon Meisels – A short bio

Prof. Amnon Meisels has been a faculty member of the department of Computer Science at Ben-Gurion University for the last 35 years., since it was the Mathematics & Computer Science Dept. He served as head of the Computer Science dept., shortly after it was formed, from 2004 to 2006. His main field of research centers on Distributed search for constrained optimization and on Network-based games that resemble asymmetric distributed constraints optimization problems (ADCOPs) in general. His book "Distributed Search by Constrained Agents", was published by Springer Verlag in January 2008. Prof. Meisels has served (and is still serving) on the program committees of all major AI conferences that deal with constraints-based reasoning over the last 20 years.

In the last 7 years his group pioneered a major effort to investigate models for self-interested agents in Distributed Constrained Search. This research produced several ground breaking papers. Two recent examples are "Incentive-based search for efficient equilibria of the public goods game" (*Artificial Intelligence Journal*, 2018) and "Incentive-based search for equilibria in Boolean games" (*Constraints*, 2019). In addition, an innovative search algorithm for finding efficient pure Nash equilibria in general multi-agent games was presented in the 24th international conference on Constraints Processing (*CP-2018*). These palettes of algorithms and results are serving currently as a basis for a joint research & development project, financed by the Israeli Innovation Authority, to design and produce a multi-agent system for managing the operating rooms at Soroka Medical Center. The project commenced its second year on November 2020.

Prof. Amnon Meisels has published over 140 scientific papers in all main AI Journals, such as AI Journal, JAIR, Constraints, JAAMAS, and in all major related conferences – IJCAI, AAAI, CP, AAMAS, and more. Over the years he coached close to 40 graduate students for 2nd and 3rd degrees at the Computer Science dept. at BGU. Prof. Meisels established the program in Software Engineering at BGU, which is a joint program to two faculties Natural Sciences and Engineering Sciences, and headed the program from its inception in 2000 to 2004. He also designed the computer science program at Sapir college in 2000 and consulted and helped staff it until it became a successful CS department in 2010.