# Report on the 14<sup>th</sup> European Agent Systems Summer School

The 14th edition of the European Agent Systems Summer School (EASSS'12) took place in Valencia (Spain) from the 28th of May to the 1st of June, 2012. It was held at the School of Engineering in Computer Science of Universitat Politècnica de Valencia. The research group GTI-IA (Grupo de Tecnología Informática e Inteligencia Artificial) of the Department of Information Systems and Computation was in charge of the local organization.

This Summer School plays an important role in training the next generation of researchers in one of the central areas in Artificial Intelligence and it also provides a regular meeting point for the international multiagent systems research community. This year's edition, it was hold the week preceding AAMAS (the International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems), which took place in the same location (and also locally organized by GTI-IA).

The EASSS 2012 programme offered 14 tutorials, of both introductory and advanced courses on a broad range of topics in the area of Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems. There was also an opening lecture and two Student Session, in which most promising students were able to present their research work. From 10 submissions, 8 papers were selected for oral presentation. The posters of these papers were on display at the school area during the whole week, so that students and tutors could take a look at them at any time.

Besides the scientific sessions, there was a welcome reception with live music, a guided walking tour to Visit Valencia historic centre, and a gala dinner at one of the nicest hotels of the city. All these social events were included within the registration price, as well as coffee breaks and lunches (for 5 days) , the electronic copy of all tutorials and the wireless internet access. At the end of the week the students were asked to complete a questionnaire to evaluate the summer school, with highly satisfactory results.

In terms of attendance, 63 students were registered and 61 attended the school. It should be mentioned that there has been about 5 potential students that could not come due to problems with getting the required visa. The students represented 44 different research institutions, and came from 20 different countries.

Regarding budgetary issues, EASSS'12 has been supported by several institutions, including the COST Action Agreement Technologies, the Artificial Intelligence Journal, EURAMAS and IFAAMAS, the Spanish Association of Artificial Intelligence, among others. Most of this funding was devoted to the grant program: 28 students obtained a grant (for registration or accommodation); and 8 of them covering registration, accommodation and part of the travel expenses from IFAAMAS funding (which only covers under-represented countries). The rest of the funding was used to cover other expenses, mainly tutors accommodation as well as organizational expenses (pen drives, welcome packs, etc.).


Vicente Julian
*Local chair of EASSS 2012*