

MEETING SUMMARY

National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource Task Force

Meeting #11

January 13, 2023

Meeting Summary

The eleventh meeting of the National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) Task Force (TF) was held online via Zoom on Friday, January 13, 2023, at 1:02 PM–2:59 PM EST.

Welcome and Administrative Remarks

The meeting started at 1:02 PM EST.

Dr. Manish Parashar, NAIRR TF Co-Chair, opened the meeting. He noted that the primary purpose of the meeting was to vote on the final report of the TF, constituting a detailed roadmap and implementation plan for the NAIRR. He acknowledged his co-chair, Ms. Tess deBlanc-Knowles, along with previous co-chairs, Drs. Erwin Gianchandani and Lynne Parker. He also acknowledged technical support from staff of the IDA Science and Technology Policy Institute.

Dr. Parashar called for a motion to approve the summary from the tenth NAIRR TF meeting, held on October 21, 2022; the motion passed. Dr. Parashar then provided an overview of the meeting agenda, including a summary and formal vote on the final report, discussion of plans for the release of the final report and next steps, reflections from TF members on the work of the TF and importance of the NAIRR, and questions from the public.

Dr. Parashar introduced recorded remarks from Dr. Sethuraman Panchanathan, Director of the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF). Dr. Panchanathan applauded the TF's vision of democratizing access to the tools required to conduct AI R&D, and emphasized the importance of leveraging the full competitive advantage of the Nation that lies in its diversity. Dr. Panchanathan thanked and congratulated the TF co-chairs, members, and contributors, noting that their efforts will help to shape the future of the NAIRR, AI as a field, and the Nation including its long-term competitiveness and security.

This session ended at 1:13 PM EST.

Final Report Summary and Formal Vote

This session started at 1:13 PM EST.

Ms. deBlanc-Knowles thanked her co-chair, TF colleagues, and all who supported the TF's efforts. She provided an overview of the TF's Final Report, beginning with the original charge to the TF from the National AI Initiative Act and the required elements of the NAIRR Roadmap. She reiterated the objective of the NAIRR as democratizing the AI innovation ecosystem in a manner that protects privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties, and achieving its four goals: to spur innovation, increase diversity, improve capacity, and advance trustworthy AI. She also provided an overview of TF recommendations for NAIRR governance. Dr. Parashar then summarized the recommended security requirements and access controls; highlighted the importance of NAIRR serving as an exemplar of ethical AI R&D; and summarized the TF's phased NAIRR implementation plan and milestones, along with the proposed NAIRR budget for years 1–6.

At 1:28 PM, Ms.deBlanc-Knowles led the TF members in a roll-call vote on adopting the report. All TF members present voted in favor of approving the report. Dr. Andrew Moore was absent, and had submitted a “yea” vote via email in advance of the meeting; Dr. Fei-Fei Li was absent and Ms. deBlanc-Knowles noted that the co-chairs would obtain her vote in writing after the meeting and circulate it to the entire TF.

At 1:30 PM, the TF recorded a majority vote to approve the final report for submission to the President and Congress.

This session ended at 1:30 PM EST.

Final Report Release and Next Steps

This session began at 1:30 PM EST.

Dr. Parashar noted that the TF’s chartering legislation called for its existence to extend for 90 days beyond release of its final report to help communicate the details of the roadmap and implementation plan to Congress and the broader community. The TF intends for the final report to be released within 2 weeks of the meeting via posting to ai.gov and announcements on the OSTP website and through social media; Dr. Parashar invited attendees to help publicize the report upon its release. The TF briefly discussed planning for a public engagement activity, tentatively to be held for a half-day on March 1, 2023, in the Washington, DC, area.

This session ended at 1:34 PM EST.

Discussion: Reflections from TF Members

This session started at 1:34 PM EST.

Ms. deBlanc-Knowles noted that, after 11 meetings and substantial work and effort from TF members, the group has fulfilled its mandate. She welcomed each TF member present to share brief reflections of what they have learned throughout the process, and any other thoughts they’d like to share about the NAIRR and the TF. Each TF member present shared reflections.

This session ended at 1:52 PM EST.

Questions from Public

This session started at 1:52 PM EST.

The TF answered questions from the public related to the maturity of the AI research community, the envisioned role for small cloud service providers, and the recommended budget for the NAIRR.

This session ended at 1:57 PM EST.

Closing Remarks

This session started at 1:57 PM EST

Dr. Parashar reminded all attendees that details about the TF are available via ai.gov, including information about past TF meetings, and noted that the website would soon include details about the public engagement event planned for March 1. He again thanked all TF members for their time and efforts, and congratulated them for achieving this milestone.

The meeting adjourned at 2:59 PM EST.

Appendix I: Attendance for NAIRR TF Meeting 11

TF Members Present:

Tess deBlanc-Knowles, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (Co-Chair)

Manish Parashar, National Science Foundation (Co-Chair)

Daniela Braga, Defined.ai

Mark Dean, retired (formerly IBM and University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

Oren Etzioni, Allen Institute for AI

Julia Lane, New York University

Michael Norman, University of California, San Diego

Dan Stanzione, University of Texas, Austin

Frederick Streitz, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Elham Tabassi, National Institute of Standards and Technology

TF Members Absent:

Fei-Fei Li, Stanford University

Andrew Moore, Google Cloud AI and Industry Solutions

Other Contributors Present:

Erwin Gianchandani, National Science Foundation

Science and Technology Policy Institute Staff Present:

Emily Grumbling

Lisa Van Pay

Matt Ishimaru