

SIGCSE Board Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2011

Phone Call Meeting

Participants are Renée McCauley(chair) Doug Baldwin, Ginger Ignatoff (ACM), Dan Joyce, Barbara Boucher Owens, Susan Rodger, Tiffany Barnes, Amber Settle, Mark Guzdial, John Impagliazzo, Henry Walker, and Z Sweedyk.

Renee called the meeting to order at 11am.

- The minutes for the November 30 meeting were approved with minor changes.
ACTION: Susan will revise and send out final minutes.
- Inroads Spotlight - what do we want to spotlight? – Renée

Renée wrote an article for the most recent SIGCSE Spotlight in ACM Inroads. What should go in the SIGCSE spotlight for the future issues? The Spotlight can have words from the Chair, items that SIGCSE is proud of, what is going on with SIGCSE. The SIGCSE spotlight is 2-3 pages. Items need to be brief and can have some overlap with the bulletin.

Renee said writing items is difficult as the article has to be written 3 months in advance. Could the Symposium Chairs write something about the conference coming up? For the SIGCSE Symposium, the December issue would be good but the material is needed in September. The bulletin is more flexible for quick items. The bulletin is also flexible in length.

One of the main reasons for the Spotlight is to remind users that Inroads started out with SIGCSE. The bulletin is timelier and will focus on what is coming up and what has happened recently. The Spotlight can have more reflection of things that have happened. There is also news on the SIGCSE page. There should be some coordination between the web pages and the bulletin. The lead time mostly dictates what goes where. Barb suggested Z coordinate with Curt.

ACTION: John, Henry and Z will talk with Curt White. Z suggested a regular conversation with Curt should occur.

- New SIG in Broadening Participation - Tiffany, Mark

Tiffany mentioned that there is a working group headed by Theresa Dahlberg to start a new SIG on Broadening Participation in Computing (SIGBP). They want SIGCSE to write a letter in support of this issue.

Barb mentioned that we have a lot of papers at the SIGCSE Symposium that relate to this topic and we should think about how this will impact our conference.

Tiffany mentioned that we should be collaborating with this new SIG and possibly have them co-sponsor (this is fiscal responsibility) or co-locate the SIGCSE Symposium.

Mark said that there are a lot of BP issues that don't come up at the SIGCSE Symposium, such as retraining IT workers. Another, helping women re-enter the workforce after leaving (e.g., to start a family) is a huge issue in terms of broadening participation in computing, but isn't a SIGCSE issue really. People in this area also need a place to publish. SIGCSE Symposium reviewers are familiar with education but not with other BP issues. Creating a SIG is one way to expand the work being done in BP issues.

Tiffany mentioned that there are lots of other venues that meet to discuss these issues.

Henry suggested we should think about if this will splinter SIGCSE.

Barbara also suggested there is another route within ACM. There are other conferences besides SIG conferences. You can create an ACM level conference. Mark said that got discussed at the BPC meeting. Also discussed was that it would be nice if assistant professors could work on BP topics and have a place to publish and get tenure for this. A SIG would nurture this growing field. Barbara asked if this in SIGCSE's best interest? Mark thinks there are a lot of BP issues that do not appear at the SIGCSE Symposium and a new conference would be a place for this to appear.

Barbara said they need a letter from the SIGCSE board (especially the chair) saying what the impact would be on our SIG and our support for the SIG, and addressing issues. The letter should be approved by the complete board. Barbara pointed out that if this new SIG is fast tracked, then this would come up before the SGS before our next meeting.

Tiffany thinks this SIG would complement SIGCSE. Other board members gave support to this.

ACTION: Tiffany and Mark will draft a letter.

- Endorsement of Advanced Placement exam – Mark

There is an effort to create a new AP exam, called CS Principles. The College Board has an attestation form on their website doing for departments to fill out to see if they will give credit or placement for this new exam. The CS Principles leaders would like organizations such as SIGCSE to encourage departments to fill out the attestation form. The College Board needs to see that a large number of departments are in support of this effort in order to have this new exam considered.

SIGCSE should endorse the process and we should take a role in encouraging our members to endorse it. Mark noted that at Georgia Tech it would take some time for them to look at the materials.

The website is here:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/html/computerscience/>

A decision was made that SIGCSE would write a letter of support to endorse this process and encourage our members to look at the website and fill out the survey.

Henry mentioned there is both a College Board survey going to departments and there is also the web site with the attestation form. The survey will take about 2 hours to fill out, and is more about the details of the course. The attestation form is short. SIGCSE will endorse the form. Mark will write a draft of the letter. Once approved by the board, we should send out an electronic notice and a copy of the letter on the website to get this out quickly.

ACTION: Mark will draft a letter of support from SIGCSE.

- Update on Future of Computing - Mark

Barbara mentioned that the planning committee met to plan CECC, this is the Computing Education Coordinating Council. This is a council to coordinate between computing education organizations. Barbara went to the meeting as a representative of SIGCSE.

The goal is to speak with a common voice. We are trying to establish this organization with a small number of organizations. The initial meeting will be this spring. NCWIT, CSTA, ACM, IEEE and a few other organizations are initial members. The plan is to have a meeting and to write documents about this organization.

- Award nominations - Athena deadlines? Dan and Amber

They have added two non-board members and plan to meet soon.

Dan expressed concern that the ACM-W committee that selects the Athena Lecturer Award is looking for "women researchers who have made fundamental contributions to Computer Science" and that they may not consider CS Education research as fundamental. Barbara said people working in ICER would be a good fit for this.

- Update on SIGCSE Symposium 2011 - Renee, Susan (exhibits)

Renee gave an update on the numbers for the SIGCSE Symposium. The numbers are down a little but it is also early.

Susan gave an update on Supporters and Exhibitors. We now have five supporters for SIGCSE 2011. We have the four supporters from last year and one new supporter, Amazon. We have a reasonable number of exhibitors.

- Update on budget processes for ITiCSE and ICER 2011 - Doug and Henry
For the ITiCSE budget, Doug has been talking with Guido and others. Guido is working on a budget with conference registration at \$500. His surplus is low, \$1500. He is looking at things to bring in more money and how to cut costs. His university might cover some of the costs. He needs to get this into ACM for approval. ACM asks 18 months out for the SIGCSE Symposium, but ITiCSE has a smaller time table of 6 months. Guido has been working on this since last summer and is about ready to submit.

Henry mentioned that the formal process is the conference chairs submit to ACM for approval. The board needn't be involved but it is good to look it over. A subset of the board should look at the budget and go ahead and submit it to ACM. Doug, Renée and Amber will look at this. This needs to be wrapped up and sent to ACM.

ACTION: Doug

Doug mentioned SIGCSE's budget is in good shape. SIGCSE has a small surplus compared to a small deficit as we predicted. Doug thought it was because Inroads cost was lower than anticipated. However, conference items are missing. ITiCSE 2010 (lost about \$900) and ICER 2010.

Mark will check on ICER 2011 budget.

ACTION: Mark.

- Update on Inroads website.
Ginger mentioned they do not have anything to report yet. The website is not ready.
- Mark reported that there is a subcommittee for the white paper on dual-career tracks. They are to produce something by the end of the summer.
- Doug is looking into a Wiki to host scholarship information. He was wondering if a search engine might be better than a wiki. He will look into what tools are available for creating a search engine.
- Barbara had a question about the status of sending CD's and working group publications. There was a concern that we would no longer print CD's. Renee said we would table this for the meeting at the SIGCSE Symposium.
- Everyone think about agenda items for the next meeting.

The meeting was called to an end at 12:36pm.

**End of minutes, January 11, 2011, SIGCSE Board Phone Meeting.
Susan Rodger, Secretary**