

**SIGCSE FY14 Annual Report**  
**July 2013 - June 2014**  
**Submitted by: Susan H. Rodger, Chair**

**1. Awards that were given out:**

The SIGCSE Award for Outstanding Contribution to Computer Science Education was presented to Robert Panoff from the Shodor Foundation for promoting student enrichment, curriculum development, faculty enhancement, and infusing computational thinking at all levels through Shodor and the National Computational Science Institute.

The SIGCSE Award for Lifetime Service to the Computer Science Education Community was presented to Andrea Lawrence from Spelman College for dedication to the computing education community, serving as a role model and mentor to students and faculty, improving diversity in computing education, making computing education available to everyone, and for helping students and faculty to "Find a way or make one".

**2. Significant papers on new areas that were published in proceedings**

Best paper awards were given at all three of SIGCSE's conferences.

At ICER 2013, there were two best paper awards. The John Henry paper award was "In-Game Assessments Increase Novice Programmers' Engagement and Level Completion Speed" by Michael Lee, Andrew Ko and Irwin Kwan. The Chairs Award was "Exploring Hypotheses about Media Computation" by Mark Guzdial.

At SIGCSE Symposium 2014, the best paper award was "Student Projects Are Not Throwaways: Teaching Practical Software Maintenance in a Software Engineering Course," by Claudia Szabo from The University of Adelaide in Australia.

At ITiCSE 2014, the best paper award was "Failure Rates in Introductory Programming Revisited," by Christopher Watson and Frederick W.B. Li from the University of Durham in the United Kingdom.

**3. Significant programs that provided a springboard for further technical efforts:**

The SIGCSE Symposium 2014 coordinated efforts with the first Learning at Scale Conference to help springboard that conference. Learning at Scale was held the two days before the SIGCSE Symposium 2014. Registration was coordinated and delegates received a discount to attend both conferences. The Learning at Scale conference was successful, and will be held again in March 2015. To help continue to grow the conference, the second Learning at Scale conference will be co-located with another ACM conference, CSCW 2015.

**4. Innovative programs which provide service to some part of your technical community:**

The SIGCSE Board will restart a workshop for future or present Department Chairs the day before SIGCSE Symposium 2015. This workshop will run every other year.

The SIGCSE Board funded a New Educator's Workshop for ten participants the day before SIGCSE Symposium 2014 and included travel grants for participants. The workshop supported five graduate students close to finishing and four pre-tenure faculty in teaching careers. A fifth faculty member attended without funding. Six speakers presented on both teaching tips and how to succeed in such careers. SIGCSE plans to run this workshop every other year.

SIGCSE Special Projects Fund provides grants up to \$5000 and has calls in November and May. Three awards were given this past year. One award was made in December 2013 to Jandelyn Plane and Elissa Redmiles for Curriculum-in-a-Box materials to assist K-12 educators to improve gender diversity in computing. Two recent awards were announced in July 2014. One award was given to Frances Trees at Rutgers to provide professional development to middle and elementary school teachers in initiate computer clubs. A second award was given to Michael Goldweber at Xavier University to incorporate educational activities that convey and reinforce computing's social relevance for society. He will provide professional development for universities in New Zealand.

The SIGCSE Symposium held thirty-three three-hour workshops for professional development. In addition, the SIGCSE Symposium provided the meeting space for six pre-symposium events for educators that included guided inquiry activities, a new educators workshop, Git and Github, humanitarian free and open source software, a SIGCAS meeting, and integrating ethics into the computer science curriculum.

ITiCSE 2014 had six working groups on the topics of sustainable gamification strategy, methodology education in computing, computational thinking in K-9, methodology and technology for in-flow peer review, increasing accessibility and adoption of smart technologies in computer science education, and benchmarking exam questions for introductory programming courses.

At ICER 2013 a doctoral consortium was held and attended by twelve graduate students in computer science education with travel support from SIGCSE. In addition to presenting their work and meeting with mentors for a full day before ICER, the students presented their work as short talks and posters during the ICER conference.

**5. Events or programs that broadened participation either geographically, or among under-represented members of your community:**

Thanks to support from Henry Walker to initiate the Travel Grant Program for faculty who have never attended the SIGCSE Symposium. The first awards were made in 2014 to five faculty to attend the SIGCSE Symposium 2014. Two of the awards were to faculty at institutions outside the United States, in Malaysia and Pakistan. Information about making donations to this program is on the sigcse.org site.

SIGCSE provides grants to non-ACM conferences that are in-cooperation with SIGCSE to bring one or more speakers from a recent SIGCSE Symposium, ITiCSE or ICER

conference to repeat their presentation. Four grants have been provided for 2014 conferences including CCSC-Eastern, CCSC-MW, CCSC-CP and CCSC-NE.

**6. Key issues that the membership of that SIG will have to deal with in the next 2-3 years:**

Every SIG undergoes a viability study every four years with the ACM SIG Governing Board. SIGCSE was assessed in March 2014 and was assessed as viable until our next review in another four years.

One key issue we are addressing is the cost of our membership. As part of the preparation for the viability study, the SIGCSE Board determined that our membership dues had not been changed in 15 years and were not covering our costs. We created two membership options, one for the paper copy of ACM Inroads (more expensive) and one for electronic version only at the same rate as the old membership fee. ACM Inroads is a SIGCSE member benefit. We plan to evaluate the impact of these membership rate changes over the next two years.

A second key issue is continuing to expand SIGCSE internationally. First the current SIGCSE Board is more international in committee members than the previous board. The previous board had no non-United States members, but the current board has two non-United States members. We are expanding the reach of the ITiCSE conference. ITiCSE has always been held in or near Europe. There are now plans to run the ITiCSE 2016 conference in Peru. We are exploring relations with other members in non-U.S. countries for possible new chapters, conferences or in-cooperation conferences.

Another key issue we are addressing is getting new volunteers involved in SIGCSE. In the past, there was no mechanism to connect members to volunteer activities. To address this, we have created a volunteer coordinator position and an online signup page at SIGCSE.org, where volunteers can more easily see what types of volunteer opportunities are available and indicate their interests.