

Minutes

SIGCSE March Board Meeting

March 8, 2017

8 am - 5 pm

Seattle, WA

Attending

- Michelle Craig, At Large
- Adrienne Decker, Treasurer
- Maureen Doyle, Bulletin Co-Editor
- Sue Fitzgerald, Secretary
- Brianna Morrison, At Large
- Susan Rodger, Immediate Past President
- Amber Settle, Chair
- Judy Sheard, Vice Chair
- Mark Weiss, At Large

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 am.

Items approved since the last meeting:

- PAF for ITiCSE 2018 approved
- October meeting minutes approved and posted
- Northwest Missouri State University ACM SIGCSE Student Chapter approved
- B. Morrison and A. Decker volunteered to attend the Facebook Faculty Symposium in June. The Symposium supporter liaisons will strategize with them about possible synergies between Facebook and SIGCSE.
- A proposal to restructure the ICER organizing committee was passed unanimously
- The getting started documents for SIGCSE chapters were updated, unanimously passed and approved by the ACM.

Minutes. January minutes were unanimously approved

SIGCSE Awards Guidelines. Revised SIGCSE Awards guidelines were unanimously approved and will be posted. The new guidelines will go into effect for the next round of awards. J. Sheard will write a short article on the new guidelines for the April issue of the SIGCSE Bulletin.

Mission Statement. A revised SIGCSE mission statement was unanimously approved by the Board. A. Settle will take the revised mission statement to the ACM SIG Governing Board for approval. After the SIG Governing Board approves, M. Craig will write an article for the July issue of the Bulletin and J. Sheard will post on the SIGCSE website.

Revised mission statement:

The ACM Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE) provides a global forum for educators to discuss research and practice related to the learning, and teaching of computing, the development, implementation, and evaluation of computing programs, curricula, and courses at all education levels, as well as broad participation, educational technology, instructional spaces, and other elements of teaching and pedagogy related to computing.

Treasurer's Report. A. Decker presented the treasurer's report. A. Decker and A. Settle will investigate rising costs for ACM Inroads.

ACM Awards. The SIGCSE Board would like SIGCSE members to receive recognition for their accomplishments. M. Weiss, S. Rodger and M. Craig will encourage nominations for ACM Senior and Distinguished Members. Previous SIGCSE award winners will be asked to nominate others. M. Weiss will write an article for April issue of the SIGCSE Bulletin. M. Doyle will add Senior Members as possible people to interview for the Member Spotlight column.

Board Approval of Volunteer Positions. The Board agreed on a document listing the volunteer positions that require Board approval. J. Sheard will post the document on the SIGCSE web pages.

ITiCSE. Mikey Goldweber reported on ITiCSE 2017 and site visits for upcoming ITiCSE conferences.

ITiCSE 2017 saw 175 submissions with a 32% acceptance rate. The poster deadline is next week. A banquet site has been identified in Italy and planning for excursions is progressing. Nine working groups were accepted out of sixteen proposals. POSSE will be offering a Saturday-Sunday 2-day workshop before the ITiCSE conference. They received funding from Google. J. Sheard will consult with ITiCSE leadership about ways to encourage working group participants to attend sessions. Subsequently she will send guidelines to the working group chairs to encourage participation in the conference.

The Board had questions about changes in the ITiCSE review process. The system used to support paper submissions and reviewing was changed and historical data was lost. Simon did an excellent job of recruiting sufficient reviewers and associate program chairs/meta-reviewers. M. Craig will discuss the selection of Associate Program Chairs with the ITiCSE leadership.

Future ITiCSE sites:

- 2017 - Italy
- 2018 - Cyprus
- 2019 - Norway is under consideration
- 2020 - Aberdeen is under consideration

Symposium Registration.

- 1414 registrations (as of this March 8 meeting)
- 374 total workshop registrations
- 256 unique workshop participants
- 162 people registered for one workshop
- 70 people registered for two workshops
- 24 people registered for three workshops

The number of workshops offered this year is lower than past years and there are fewer registrations in workshops this year.

The Board considered ideas for increasing workshop registrations including bundling workshop and conference registrations. B. Morrison will survey members to see if workshop scheduling is problematic and to explore pricing/bundling options.

The Board considered a request to bundle registration and membership since some Universities do not pay for professional membership fees. M. Weiss will send sample language to the Symposium Registration team for receipts and confirmation emails which may alleviate the problem.

M. Craig will discuss the cost of workshops and appropriate minimum enrollments with Symposium chairs with the aim of providing context and continuity. Workshops are revenue generating as long as the minimum enrollment is set at an appropriate level. At a minimum, workshop registrations should cover the cost of A/V for the room for the day as well as the one free night in hotel for the presenter. Four registrations are not likely to cover these costs. M. Craig will coach the new Symposium Chairs.

Conferences

- The Board unanimously approved Ari (Archie) Korhonen as ICER site co-chair for 2018. A. Settle will inform the ICER organizers.
- The Board unanimously approved Sarah Heckman and Jian Zhang as 2020 Symposium co-chairs. A. Settle will inform the Symposium organizers.
- A. Decker and A. Settle will discuss the need to cultivate leadership, particularly female leaders, with the Symposium leadership

CACM Paper Nominations. The Board discussed the process for nominating papers from our conferences to be reprinted in the Communications of the ACM. CACM seeks only research papers. SIGCSE is not limited to only one paper.

J. Sheard will work with ITICSE leadership, A. Decker will work with Symposium leadership, and B. Morrison will work with ICER leadership to identify and forward the best paper from each conference. Papers will be submitted to CACM within one month after each conference. J. Sheard, A. Decker and B. Morrison will summarize the significance of the work as part of the nomination.

SIGCSE's 50th Anniversaries. The SIG's 50th anniversary occurs in 2018. The Technical Symposium celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2019. This is an opportunity to celebrate in many ways. A. Settle, M. Doyle, B. Morrison, A. Decker and J. Sheard will work on planning for the SIG's birthday.

- A. Settle will ask one or more those involved in the creation of SIGCSE to write a "historical highlights" article for Inroads or the Bulletin.
- A. Settle will ask "oldtimers" to find historical pictures.
- A Bulletin article could focus on 50 things about the SIGCSE organization or 50 members
- The Bulletin and/or Inroads could be asked to reprint classic articles.
- A. Settle will acknowledge the SIG's 50th anniversary at each SIGCSE conference during the anniversary year. She will ask long time attendees to stand up and be recognized.
- A. Decker will find an artist to create a new logo. A. Settle will check with the ACM about requirements for changing the logo.
- The committee will reach out to those who expressed interest, other longtime SIGCSE members, past SIGCSE Board chairs, past Bulletin editors and others
- J. Sheard will add anniversary information to the website

SIGCSE is the third largest SIG in number of members.

A. Decker will work with Beth Hawthorne and Manuel Pérez-Quñones on planning for the 50th Symposium anniversary celebration. Ideas include

- Special impact awards
- Reprinting/representing papers from the decades; inviting speakers to re-present
- Special sessions or panels (special submission category, not competing directly with other submissions)
- Daily events
- Beth and Manuel expressed interest in a committee with small board budget.
- A. Decker will invite past chairs for special recognition
- Perhaps a special dinner - organized but not free
- Special registration for longtimers - perhaps \$10 off registration for every year you've attended and must be retired

Business Meeting. The Board discussed the content and slides for the March 10 Business Meeting.

New ACM Template. The new ACM paper template allows for less text/information and increases the number of pages in some cases. The Board discussed increasing the page limit for conference submissions.

The cost of increasing the number of pages in the proceedings calculated using a simple formula. However, adding 100 pages would cost perhaps \$500; adding 400 pages would cost perhaps \$1,500. The needs of the three conferences could differ. The first conference for which the new template will be required will be ICER 2017.

J. Sheard will ask Simon whether new ACM template caused problems. A. Settle will add this as a discussion item for a future Board meeting.

A question arose about publishing abstracts of posters - the Symposium limits poster abstracts to one paragraph; ITiCSE allows a one page abstract per poster.

Lunch. The Board shared lunch with the CRA-W faculty and graduate student early career mentoring workshops' participants.

COI Policy for Program and Conference Co-Chairs

- The Board reviewed current practices and policies for submission of proposals from program committees for ICER, the Technical Symposium and ITiCSE
- The issues are: perceptions of conference quality, perceptions of fairness, hindrance of career progress for conference organizers and/or their students, consistency across conferences
- The Board concluded that there should be one policy for the SIG which applies to all conferences
- B. Morrison and J. Sheard will draft a policy for board review

Request for Collaboration with SIGGRAPH. SIGGraph is requesting a partnership with SIGCSE which could involve the cross-presentation of papers previously presented at each SIG's conferences. A. Settle forwarded the proposal to the conference chairs for feedback. A. Settle will follow up with SIGGraph

representative, Eric Brunvand, to explore what SIGCSE papers would be of interest to SIGGraph. An alternative suggestion is to rotate targeted Symposium sessions through several SIG or organizations such as CHI, SIGCAS or AAAI. A. Settle will follow up with SIGGraph and SIGCSE conference chairs.

ICER. Donald Chin and Josh Tenenberg reported on ICER 2017. ICER is proposing a new program committee structure with senior and junior program chairs coupled with a senior and junior site chairs. The senior program and senior site chairs would serve as the conference co-chairs. The program committee will be comprised of approximately 15 meta-reviewers along with the two program chairs. The program committee will serve as meta-reviewers, with each member assigned 6-10 papers. In addition, there will be sixty to sixty-five reviewers. The review committee members will each be assigned 4-6 papers to review. A criterion for review committee membership is previous attendance at ICER and a criterion for program committee membership is previous service as an ICER reviewer. Approximately 50% of the ICER reviewers were new this year.

ICER 2017 is on budget so far. Oracle Academy has signed on as a supporter. Conference organizers are discussing expanding the program to three full days.

Ari (Archie) Korhonen was confirmed as ICER site co-chair for 2018.

Technical Symposium. Steve Edwards and Michael Caspersen reported on the 2017 Symposium. They reported that the program chairs did an exceptional job. The space worked out well with high utilization. Costs of power, A/V, union badge checkers and food were higher than anticipated. The conference management team, Executive Events, worked hard to reduce costs and increase supporter revenues (up 30% this year). Executive Events requested a fourth staff person, a cost charged to the conference. Registrations are up about 10%.

Tiffany Barnes and Dan Garcia reported on the 2018 Symposium. The 2017 paper review process was discussed. The proposal management software was changed from OpenConference to EasyChair. The number of Associate Program Chairs was increased from 12 to 50 and each Associate Program Chair was assigned 6-8 papers (down from about 27 papers per APC last year). APC's were chosen by the program and conference chairs. There were concerns about the lack of reviewer anonymity during the discussion phase. Tiffany and Dan reported positive comments from reviewers and authors and said the discussion phase was effective.

Separate tracks for research, experience and new programs/tools were informally proposed for 2018 with both proposal submitters and reviewers designating their track of interest. Reviews of papers, panels and workshops would be separated. A 5-day reviewer bidding process was informally proposed. Formal written proposals were requested.

The discussion phase will be anonymous in 2018.

The publication of Student Research Competition abstracts was discussed. Tiffany and Dan were encouraged to post the 2018 call for participation immediately until the official conference web site is available. Two new web masters were appointed to the conference committee. A new committee "fun" role was added. Steve Wolfman will serve in this role.

Curricular Volume Updates. Alison Clear updated the SIGCSE on an ACM Education Board project to update the curricular guideline volumes. She requests a SIGCSE representative.

Technical Symposium. Beth Hawthorne and Manuel Perez-Quinones discussed the status of program planning for the 2018 Symposium in Baltimore.

Plans for a 50th Technical Symposium in 2019 were discussed.

The proposal to cross-present SIGGraph and SIGCSE papers at SIGGraph and the Technical Symposium was discussed and generally perceived to be mutually beneficial. Practical considerations about space and setting precedents were discussed along with the idea of making paper exchanges more general, perhaps to include other SIGs.

The Board reiterated their directive for anonymous reviewing during discussion phase and requested that Beth and Manuel track the quality of the reviewers.

Symposium Site Selection: Bob Beck and Paul Tymann

2017 Seattle

2018 Baltimore

2019 Minneapolis

2020 West Coast location TBD. Request for proposals to include Vancouver.

ACM Inroads. editors: Laurie King and Mark Bailey

A special issue on the SIGCSE organization's 50th anniversary will be produced, perhaps the June issue. The Inroads editors will seek a guest editor. This issue could include reprints of classic articles.

Rising costs were discussed. Advertising revenues are small. ACM is perceived as responsible for recruiting advertisers.

The range of columnists has been broadened. Columnists now include a high school teacher, a National Science Foundation officer and international perspectives. There is a special section on broadening participation.

The editorial advisory board has been doubled from 18 to approximately 36. At least one editor's term is ending and a replacement will be selected.

Site Selection Teams. A. Deck and B. Morrison will propose a strategy for conserving knowledge yet encouraging new volunteers to participate in Symposium site selection.

J. Sheard and M. Craig will propose a site selection committee strategy for ITICSE in consultation with the current site selection committee.

Meeting concluded at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Fitzgerald
SIGCSE Secretary