

Annual Report of the SIG Governing Board

For the period
1-July-05 through 30-June-06

Submitted by:
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1. Governance

1.1 The SIG Governing Board (SGB)

The SGB is comprised of the chief executive officer or designee of each regular SIG. The SGB is charged with forming SIGs, with managing them and setting policies for their management, and with recommending their dissolution. The SGB elects a Chair, Executive Committee and 3 additional representatives to Council.

1.2 The SGB EC

The SGB elects a Chair and an Executive Committee, which has full authority to act on behalf of the SGB between its meetings. The SGB EC is bound by the SGB's actions and the SGB may override any decision of the SGB EC. The SGB EC is made up of the following positions:

SGB Chair

SGB Past Chair

Vice Chair for Operations – Presides over SGB meeting, including SGB EC conference calls

Vice Chair for SIG Development – Identifies emerging technical areas, oversees transitional SIGs, the SGB Information Director, SGB committees, and SIG Liaisons to ACM Boards.

Secretary – Acts as elections advisor, policy advisor and financial and budgetary advisor

Conference Advisor – Oversees issues related to conferences as directed by the SGB

Large SIG Advisor – Acts as liaison for large SIG issues

Small SIG Advisor – Acts as liaison for small SIG issues

Publications Advisor – Acts as liaison between SGB and Publications Board

Director of SIG Services – Staff liaison

During FY'06 the following individuals held the positions indicated:

Name	Position	Term End
Robert Walker	Chair	July 1, 2006
Alan Berenbaum	Past Chair	July 1, 2006
Norm Jouppi	Conference Advisor	July 1, 2007
Vicki Hanson	Vice Chair for SIG Development	July 1, 2007
Janice Sipior	Small SIG Advisor	July 1, 2006
Joseph Konstan	Vice Chair for Operations	July 1, 2006
Eydie Lawson	Secretary	July 1, 2007
Michael Burke	Large SIG Advisor	July 1, 2006
Keith Marzullo	Publications Advisor	January 1, 2007
Donna Cappo	Staff Liaison	

1.3 Council Representatives

The SGB elects 3 representatives to the ACM council for two-year terms.

During FY'06 the following individuals held the ACM Council positions indicated:

Name	Position	Term End
Robert Walker	SGB Chair	July 1, 2006
Alain Chesnais	SGB Representative	July 1, 2007
Jennifer Rexford	SGB Representative	July 1, 2006
Alexander Wolf	SGB Representative	July 1, 2007

1.4 Standing Committees

The SGB is responsible for the oversight of the Federated Computing Research Conference Steering Committee currently Chaired by Barbara Ryder.

1.5 Significant SGB actions

The SGB voted to continue its funding of the Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), with this being the second year of funding. The Health of Conferences committee was formed in December 2005 by ACM and IEEE CS with the goals of unearthing actionable ideas and revealing failed ideas for conference planning. 30 SIGs provided input and a wiki was set up to capture the information. It is expected to be utilized as an on-going resource for SIG and conference leaders.

1.6 Miscellaneous Appointments

The SGB liaisons are either the Chairs of the corresponding ACM Board or Committee or have joint appointments with the corresponding ACM Board or Committee. This includes the Education Advisor, the Publications Board Liaison, the Membership Activities Board Liaison and the Awards Committee Liaison.

Name	Position	Term End
Terry Coatta	Membership Activities Board Liaison	Acting
Joseph A. Konstan	Membership Board Liaison	January 1, 2007
Keith Marzullo	Publications Board Liaison	January 1, 2007
Eric Roberts	Education Board Liaison	Acting
Barbara Ryder	FCRC Steering Comm. Chair	June 30, 2007

1.7 SGB Nominating Committee

The SGB Nominating Committee nominates candidates for the SGB EC, in addition to nominating candidates for SGB Chair and SGB Representatives to ACM Council. The nominating committee:

Name	Position	Term End
Alan Berenbaum	Past SGB Chair	July 1, 2006
Robert Walker	SGB Chair	July 1, 2006
Donna Cappo	Staff Liaison	

2. SIGs and SIG Membership

Appendix B summarizes basic SIG Statistics for FY'05. Included are member and subscriber totals, newsletter and proceedings activity, and conference involvement.

2.1 Membership Counts by class of membership:

	FY'04	FY'05	FY'06
ACM/SIG Members	37,747	36,394	34,279
SIG Only Members	7,923	8,792	10,040
Subscribers	2,800	2,596	2,397
Total SIG Memb/Subs	48,470	47,782	46,716
Total ACM Members	77,585	81,013	80,832

The SIGs overall member/subscriber count is 46,716 as compared to 47,782 in FY'05.

2.2 Membership Renewal Rates

Membership renewal rates are indicators of several realities, including 1) the degree to which members are satisfied with the services they are receiving as a result of membership and 2) the rate at which individuals are leaving the technical specialty.

The SIGs with the highest retention are:

ARCH	80%
Ada	78%
COMM	78%
CSE	78%
OPS	78%

The SIGs with the lowest retention are:

EVO	42%
APP	43%
Ecom	60%
KDD	64%
BED	65%

3. New SIG Formation and Dissolution

SIGEVO, the SIG on Genetic and Evolutionary Computation, transitioned to become a regular SIG on June 15, 2006.

4. SIG Program Reviews and Annual Reports

4.1 Program Reviews

Every 4 years the SIG Chairs are required to provide a short presentation including a question and answer period during the SIG Chairs meeting. This presentation is intended to show that the SIG is viable and meeting its mission. The endorsement from the SGB to continue the SIGs status is based on a growing or stable membership, solid finances, healthy conferences, and publications or other member benefits being delivered and well received by members.

The SGB conducted 12 full program reviews during the year: SIGACT, SIGAda, SIGAPP, SIGCAS, SIGCSE, SIGDA, SIGGRAPH, SIGMOBILE, SIGOPS, SIGUCCS and SIGWEB were deemed viable under existing criteria.

SIGAPL was placed in transition.

4.2 Annual Reports

Annual reports for FY'06 were received from:

SIGACCESS, SIGACT, SIGAda, SIGAPL, SIGAPP, SIGARCH, SIGART, SIGBED, SIGCAS, SIGCHI, SIGCOMM, SIGCSE, SIGDA, SIGDOC, SIGecom, SIGEVO, SIGGRAPH, SIGIR, SIGITE, SIGKDD, SIGMETRICS, SIGMICRO, SIGMIS, SIGMOBILE, SIGMM, SIGOPS, SIGPLAN, SIGSAC, SIGSAM, SIGSIM, SIGSOFT, SIGUCCS, SIGWEB.

SIGMOD submitted a draft copy.

5. SIG Technical Highlights

The strength of the SIGs lies in their technical excellence. Once again we have seen a continued growth in conferences, improvements in publications, innovations in many areas, expansion of the awards program, increased attention to educational activities and increased cooperative efforts among the SIGs. The following excerpts from the FY'06 SIG Annual Reports detail only some of the outstanding activities going on in the SIG Community. I urge you to review the individual SIG Annual reports, which can be found in Appendix D.

5.1 Electronic Community

SIGMOBILE has continued its monthly e-mail newsletter (*E-News*), started last year, for SIGMOBILE members. This electronic newsletter, edited by Information Director *Dr. Robert Steele* (University of Technology, Sydney, Australia), includes SIGMOBILE announcements, pointers to relevant mainstream news articles of interest to SIGMOBILE members, a calendar of upcoming events of interest to its members, and pointers to developer news for active developers in the area of mobile computing and wireless networking.

SIGITE started a monthly news bulletin, as a complement to its semi-annual newsletter. Whereas the newsletter is becoming more of a vehicle for members of SIGITE to share their research results, the news bulletin primarily consists of short items aimed at keeping the membership informed of the various activities that SIGITE is undertaking.

Available on the SIGACCESS website is the monthly 'left field' column by Simon Harper (see <http://www.acm.org/sigaccess/leftfield/>). This column brings up topics and issues in accessibility that arise from ACM publications that might be out of the mainstream of what SIGACCESS members typically read.

The SIGAPL web site has been renewed by making available more information and contents: the Waterloo APL archives and a new software library will be installed on the web site.

This year SIGGRAPH spent a major effort in creating its new ACM SIGGRAPH web site. It has moved from static html to Plone, which is an Open Source Content Management System. The site was redesigned, with the assistance of the webmaster, Viveka Weiley, and the entire sysmgrs team. Much old content was updated and new content added. This coming year SIGGRAPH plans to continue improving the site.

5.2 Publications

The newly started "Transactions on the Web" (TWEB) is an excellent development for SIGWEB members, as it finally gives this community a dedicated transactions-level ACM journal dedicated to themes that closely match the profile of many of its members.

SIGSOFT continues to experiment with the affordances of digital publishing. For the second year, ICSE has provided a paper proceedings only as an option. This year, the proceedings instead was made available on a USB memory stick, financed by a corporate donation to the conference.

Responding to member interest for an ACM journal devoted on research on accessibility topics, SIGACCESS has been working to establish such a journal. The first step was a Special Issue of the ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI) on the topic of Web Accessibility. There was an overwhelming number of submissions for this Special Issue, for which only a few papers could be selected. Given the demonstrated need for an outlet for high-quality research in this area, the SIGACCESS officers are continuing to work with ACM to establish a journal that would serve the needs of this community.

SIGDOC's quarterly newsletter (<http://www.sigdoc.org/newsletter/current/>) is e-mailed to all SIGDOC members, and archived versions of past newsletters are also available (<http://www.sigdoc.org/newsletter/archives/>). The newsletter consists of news from members (notes from the chair and from the general conference chair), future conference information, interesting items, feature articles, and job market information.

5.3 Technical Meetings

ASSETS '05, held in Baltimore, Maryland and sponsored by SIGACCESS, was the first time the conference had been held on an annual basis. Surpassing expectations, not only were there sufficient submissions to provide excellent technical sessions, but conference attendance was the highest in ASSETS history. SIGACCESS was encouraged with this success and looks forward to ASSETS'06 in Portland, Oregon, October 23 – 25.

Following the practice established for the past several years of moving the SIGUCCS Spring conference to new locations, the 33rd Computer Services Management Symposium (CSMS) was held from April 9 to 11, 2006 in San Diego, CA. The theme was: Shedding Light on New Ideas. 123 people attended the conference; 50 were first-time attendees. The program included three plenary sessions with invited speakers, facilitated discussion sessions and birds-of-a-feather sessions. The conference received many favorable comments, particularly for the opportunities that it provided for networking for the attendees.

SIGSOFT's ICSE 2006 was held in Shanghai, China, under the leadership team of Leon Osterweil (general chair), and Mary Lou Soffa and Dieter Rombach (program co-chairs). Holding ICSE – a multi-track event on the scale of a thousand participants – in a country with an emerging economy and high-tech industry was a major accomplishment. The event was critical to helping the global community appreciate the monumental changes that are taking place in China and throughout Asia.

This year, SIGSAC launched a third major conference, namely ACM Symposium on Information, Computer and Communications Security (AsiaCCS), which was held in Taipei, Taiwan, on March 21-23, 2006. AsiaCCS received 186 submissions from 26 countries (i.e., 10 from Europe, 12 from Asia, 2 from North America and 2 from Africa) and accepted rate was 17%. This indicates a very

strong start for this conference and suggests that interest in the information security area outside North America is growing.

For the first time in 2005, SIGMOBILE's MobiCom hosted the ACM Student Research Competition (SRC). MobiCom 2006 will be held September 24-29, 2006, in Los Angeles, California, USA, and will again be hosting the ACM SRC.

CGO 2006: Code Generation and Optimization 2005, sponsored by SIGMICRO, was held March 26-29, 2006 in New York City, New York (<http://www.cgo.org/cgo2006>). This conference is now well established and in its fourth year. As a first, CGO was held immediately prior to the SIGPLAN PPOPP conference. As such, PPOPP and CGO shared a third keynote (on the last day of CGO and the first day of PPOPP) given by Guy Steele (Sun Microsystems).

SAC 2006 was held in Dijon, France, April 23-27, 2006, hosted by the University of Bourgogne. Thanks to a great organizing committee, it was an extremely successful symposium with the most number of submissions, accepted papers and posters ever. New tracks included Advances in Spatial and Image-based Information Systems, Computer Ethics and Human Values, Computer Forensics, Geometric Computing and Reasoning, Model Transformation, and More Accurate Computation: Methods and Software.

SIGCHI put substantial direct effort into its flagship CHI conference, which has undergone substantial redesign in the past few years. In particular, now that CHI 2006 is complete, SIGCHI reports success in its effort to redesign the conference to bring back a segment of the practitioner community that had been in decline at CHI. Highlights include moving from expensive pre-conference tutorials to a higher registration fee with a four-day (instead of three-day) main conference in which courses are offered in parallel with other technical sessions, creating new venues under the control of communities of practice (e.g., usability case studies), and adding a recruiting evening reception. While these changes were not without controversy (and increased fees were a particular source of complaints), There was a substantial boost in attendance and initial satisfaction with the program seems to be quite high.

SIGGRAPH 2005, the 32nd conference on computer graphics and interactive techniques, brought 29,122 professionals from nearly 90 countries to Los Angeles for the annual conference and exhibition 31 July - 4 August 2005. Over 250 exhibiting companies exhibited in over 70,000 net square feet of space. SIGGRAPH 2005 exceeded expectations with an overall 4 percent increase in attendance over the previous year and close to a three percent increase in technical program attendance. One of the most striking aspects of this year's conference was the incredible diversity of uses for the technical advances in computer graphics and interactive techniques. In addition, the energy on the exhibit floor was vibrant and exhibitors reported solid interest in the computer graphics hardware and software tools on display. World-renowned director, producer, and screenwriter George Lucas presented the keynote at SIGGRAPH 2005 to over 5,000 attendees.

5.4 Professional Recognition/Awards

Sponsors	Award	Awardee
ACCESS	SIGACCESS Best Paper Award SIGACCESS Best Student Paper Award	Matt Huenerfarth Stephen Krufka, Kenneth Barner
ACT	Godel Prize (with EATCS) Donald E. Knuth Prize (with IEEE) SIGACT Distinguished Service Award Best Student Paper Award Edsger W. Dijkstra Prize in Distributed Computing (with SIGOPS)	Manindra Agrawal, Neeraj Kayal, Nitin Saxena Mihalis Yannakakis Tom Leighton Danny Lewin \\\nAnup Rao, Jakob Nordstrom Marshall Pease, Robert Shostak, Leslie Lamport
Ada	SIGAda Outstanding Ada Community Contributions	Matthew Heaney, Pascal Leroy Eugene Bingue, Rush Kester
APP	SIGAPP Distinguished Service Award	Hisham Haddad
ARCH	The Eckert-Mauchly Award (co-sponsored with IEEE CS) Maurice Wilkes Award Influential ISCA Paper	James S. Pomerene Doug Burger Pohua P. Chang, Scott A. Mahlke, William Y. Chen, Nancy J. Warter, Wen-mei W. Hwu
ART	Autonomous Agents Research Award	Milind Tambe (2005) Michael Wooldridge (2006)
CAS	SIGCAS 2006 Making a Difference Award SIGCAS 2006 Outstanding Service Award	Barbara Simons Keith Miller
CHI	CHI Lifetime Achievement Award CHI Lifetime Service Award CHI Social Impact Award	Judith S. Olson, Gary M. Olson Susan M. Dray Ted Henter
COMM	SIGCOMM Lifetime Achievement Award SIGCOMM Test of Time Award	Domenico Ferrari Vern Paxson
CSE	SIGCSE Award for Outstanding Contributions to Computer Science Education The SIGCSE Lifetime Service Award	Rich Pattis Joyce Currie Little
DA	ACM/IEEE William J. McCalla ICCAD Best Paper Award ACM Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation Award in EDA SIGDA Distinguished Service Award SIGDA Outstanding New Faculty Award	Zhenhai Zhu, Jacob White Shuvendu Lahiri Robert Walker David Pan
DOC	Diana Award	British Computer Society
GRAPH	SIGGRAPH Computer Graphics Achievement Award Significant New Researcher Award Steven Anson Coons Award	Jos Stam Ronald Fedkiw Tomoyuki Nishita
KDD	SIGKDD Innovation Award SIGKDD Service Award	Leo Breiman Weka Team
METRICS	SIGMETRICS Achievement Award Kenneth C. Sevcik Outstanding Student Paper Award	Richard Muntz Pascal Lieshout, Michel R.H. Mandjes, Sem Borst
MIS	Magid Igarria Outstanding Conference Paper Award	Margaret F. Reid, Myria W. Allen, Cynthia K. Riemenschneider, Deborah J. Armstrong
MOBILE	SIGMOBILE Outstanding Contribution Award	Daniel P. Siewiorek

MOD	SIGMOD Contributions Award SIGMOD Edgar F. Codd Innovations Award SIGMOD Test of Time Award	Hongjun Lu Michael Carey Yue Zhuge, Hector Garcia-Molina, Jennifer Widom, Joachim Hammer
OPS	Mark Weiser Award	Tom Anderson
PLAN	ACM SIGPLAN PL Achievement Award SIGPLAN Distinguished Service Award	Ron Cytron, Jeanne Ferrante, Barry Rosen, Mark Wegman, Kenneth Zadeck Hans Boehm
SAC	SIGSAC Outstanding Contribution Award SIGSAC Outstanding Innovation Award	Peter G. Neumann Whitfield Diffie
SAM	SIGSAM Richard D. Jenks Memorial Prize	John Cannon
SOFT	ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Service Award Outstanding Research Award	Carlo Ghezzi David Harel
UCCS	SIGUCCS Penny Crane Award	J. Michael Yohe
WEB	Vannevar Bush Award (with SIGIR) Douglas C. Engelbart Award Theodor Holm Nelson Award	Carl Lagoze, Tim Cornwell, Naomi Dushay, Dean Eckstrom, Dean Krafft, John Saylor Stuart Moulthrop J. Nathan Matias

5.5 Educational Programs and Special Projects

An important initiative that SIGSOFT has engaged in is the SIGSOFT Software Engineering Dissertation Catalog, whose goals are to create a record of the research activity of our youngest researchers and ease access to this content for computer scientists and historians, which is normally dispersed in obscure locales on the internet.

Inspired by the theoretical computer science community, SIGSAM has begun an effort to prepare a "white paper" on the importance of research in computer algebra and symbolic computation. A committee has been formed, and we have received offers of support and assistance from an NSF Program Officer in the CCF cluster and from the Executive Director of the CRA.

SIGKDD Curriculum committee, lead by Jiawei Han, has published its recommended curriculum for teaching data mining on the SIGKDD website.

SIGARCH and the SC Steering Committee have agreed that future profits from SC'XY will be in large part returned to the SC community, in the form of a series of large project-oriented grants (to be matched by the other sponsor of SC'XY, the IEEE Computer Society). In 2005 the grants provided funds for mentoring and education programs for the community.

SIGART co-sponsored, with AAI, the SIGART/AAI Doctoral Consortium. The Doctoral Consortium, held in conjunction with the AAI conference, provides an opportunity for a group of 12-15 Ph.D. students to discuss and explore their research interests and career objectives with a panel of established AI researchers. A similar Doctoral Mentoring program was held in conjunction with the AAMAS conference, both in 2005 and in 2006.

In response to requests for information, the SIGCSE Board asked Sue Fitzgerald from Metropolitan State University and Lisa Kaczmarczyk from Rose Hulman Institute of Technology to help start a project to identify CS Ed doctoral programs and to identify resources for those interested in that area. Initial materials are being gathered and organized.

SIGGRAPH has provided a service of resume and demo reel review, and general career counseling where asked. Its Director for Communications, Mk Haley, has volunteered to speak on behalf of ACM SIGGRAPH on the topic, particularly at local chapter meetings. SIGGRAPH organizes sessions on site at the conference each year for the Student Volunteers to get career advice, and then provide one on one mentoring and reviews.

5.6 International Activities

SIGSAM received approval to offer a discount membership rate to members from economically developing countries, with a temporary waiver of dues for those without easy access to Western currency.

The very active European SIGOPS chapter held their first conference, EuroSys, in Leuven, Belgium in April 2006. It was a very successful conference, with an international program on topics ranging from traditional topics such as device drivers to newly important areas such as forensics. They also held a workshop aimed at helping researchers to write effective systems papers.

Last year, SIGMOBILE started a new Local Chapters program. SIGMOBILE Professional and Student Chapters continue the work of SIGMOBILE within their local regions by bringing together individuals with an interest in mobile systems, users, data, and computing. Currently, two Local Chapters are fully approved and operating, a SIGMOBILE Student Chapter in Singapore and a SIGMOBILE Professional Chapter in Sydney, Australia.

To be more inclusive globally, SIGMIS is developing a new relationship with colleagues in Central Europe. This relationship began with sponsorship of the 9th International Conference on Business Information Systems, held May 31-June 2, 2006, in Klagenfurt, Austria. SIGMIS is working with members of the Program Committee to include the proceedings in the ACM DL and hope to initiate a local SIGMIS chapter.

The TCS Funding Committee sponsored by SIGACT has been very active this past year. The committee meets by conference call monthly and has developed and executed action plans to help increase the funding base for theory of computation at the NSF. Examples of actions are two NSF-sponsored workshops on the Theory of Networked Computing leading to the possible creation of a new program within the NSF. In addition, a brochure targeted at policy makers in business and government is being created. The brochure will explain the exciting future directions in the field.

SIGAPP is finalizing plans to hold SAC 2007 in Asia and SAC 2008 in South America, each continent for the first time, to further develop participation from researchers in those regions of the world.

SIGART co-sponsored, with IFMAS and ATAL, a Summer School on Agents in Porto Alegre, Brazil, 21-30 September 2005. The school is part of an effort to broaden the community in underdeveloped areas. A total of 68 people, mostly from Brazil and South America, attended the school.

Following up on last year's initiative to fund junior faculty from Latin America to attend the main SIGCOMM conference, SIGCOMM sponsored three junior faculty to attend SIGCOMM'06. The recipients hailed from Brazil, India, and Thailand.

SIGEVO's Executive Committee approved a plan brought forward by Erik Goodman that SIGEVO sponsor a conference in Shanghai, China, in fall, 2008 or spring, 2009. The planning group hopes to spawn a biennial Asia/Pacific event that would make SIGEVO more accessible to its members and prospective members in the region.

5.7 Collaborative Efforts

SIGSAM supported a special session on symbolic computation at the largest US mathematics conference, the Joint Mathematics Meetings. SIGSAM provided a small travel grant to the session organizers to open the door. With the support of the session organizers, they received permission from the American Mathematical Society to publish abstracts from the session in CCA.

SIGPLAN is sponsoring several projects with ACM History Committee. They have funded the capture of an oral history from Jean Sammet. They are also funding the transcription of interviews with Ralph Griswold (creator of SNOBOL and ICON) that were taken in 1972. The SIGPLAN leadership has also approved capturing oral histories of John McCarthy, Tony Hoare, and Adele Goldberg. These oral histories will appear in the Digital Library.

In conjunction with representatives of the Association for Information Technology Professionals (AITP) and the Association for Information Systems (AIS), SIGMIS has been involved in the development of model curriculum for education in information systems both at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The highlight of SIGITE's year was the promulgation of the IT model curriculum in 2005. This initiative started shortly after the establishment of SIGITE in October 2003, and was successfully completed in October 2005. The IT model curriculum is part of the ACM/IEEE/AIS Computing Curricula Series and is available from the ACM web site, where interested parties can also comment on the draft. SIGITE also made a significant contribution to the recently published Computing Curricula Overview Report, and is currently working on an IT model curriculum for 2 year colleges.

The new SIGCAS Executive Committee has initiated collaborative activities with two other SIGs, namely SIGCSE and SIGITE, both involved in the computing education arena. They are beginning to have a formal and visible presence at the conferences, and hope to serve both the SIGCAS membership and the membership of these cooperating organizations in furthering study in the areas of the social impact of computing and computer ethics. SIGCAS is also making connections with various regions of the CCSC (Consortium for Computer Science in Colleges), and has a representative on the newly formed ACM Education Council.

SIGCSE invited Robb Cutler, CSTA Chair, and Chris Stephenson, CSTA Executive Director, to give a keynote address on "Working Together to Improve K-12 Computer Science Education" at the SIGCSE 2006 Symposium.

SIGGRAPH is actively working with quality teams in related areas to form official alliances, share resources, and cross promote one another. These include AWN.com, the Visual Effects Society, SIGCHI, IGDA, and Computer Graphics World Magazine. This is an ongoing effort to strengthen ACM SIGGRAPH's role within related communities.