ACM History Committee

2019 Program for Research in ACM History

The Association for Computing Machinery, founded in 1947, is the oldest and largest educational and scientific society dedicated to the computing profession, and today has more than 100,000 members around the world. The ACM History Committee will support research projects related to ACM’s professional and educational activities and/or to ACM’s rich institutional history including its organization, publications, SIG activities, and conferences.

We will support up to four projects with awards of up to $4,000 each. Successful candidates may be of any rank, from graduate students through senior researchers.

To Apply:

Applicants should send a 2-page CV as well as a 500-word project description that [a] describes the proposed research; [b] identifies specific ACM historical research materials, whether traditional archival collections or online historical materials (oral histories, digitized conference papers, ACM organizational records, et al.); [c] discusses project outcomes (e.g. journal article, book or dissertation chapter, teaching resource, museum exhibit, website); [d] outlines a timeline for completing the project; [e] agrees to write a one-page blog entry during the project and, on completion, to promptly report the project’s results.

In preparing a proposal, applicants should examine the document “ACM Research Materials” posted at <history.acm.org/content.php?do=links> as well as “Sources for ACM History,” CACM 50 #5 (May 2007): 36-41 <doi.acm.org/10.1145/1230819.1230836>. Other research materials relating to ACM history may also be used. Applicants should include a short letter of endorsement from their institution or an external scholarly reference.

Proposals are due by 1 April 2019. Proposals should be submitted as a single pdf-format document to <history-webmaster@acm.org>. Notification of awards will be made in 6-8 weeks.

Previous Results:

Since 2009 ACM HC has supported 28 research projects. Results include the recent edited volume Communities of Computing: Computer Science and Society in the ACM (ACM Books 2016; DOI 10.1145/2973856). ACM HC also sponsors workshops in oral history methods and archiving practices.