

ACM History Committee Meeting

Minutes, August 12, 2019 (v. 2)

1. Welcome (Whitton)

- Meeting began at 8:00am PDT via Zoom

2. Attendees (Whitton)

- Mary Whitton (meeting chair)
- Barbara Boucher Owens (chair)
- Vicki Almstrum (minutes)
- David Brock
- Roy Levin (Turing oversight)
- Bernadette Longo (late)
- Erik Rau
- Kim Tracy
- Amanda Wick
- Jeffrey Yost

Committee members not attending:

- Len Shustek (in Scotland on vacation)
- Sachin Maheshwari
- Ursula Martin
- Carol Hutchins

Guests:

- Charles House

3. Minutes from May and June meetings (Almstrum)

- Discussed the difficulty involved with reducing too much due to lots of action items and contents). Must agree regarding what to keep for public versions. Carol, Eric and Bernadette are the sub-committee to help with minutes. We are working toward having two different versions, one full and a shorter version for public posting.
- We agreed to approve the brief minutes from May 22nd.
- For the June 11th minutes, Roy requested an update to Item 4 (Turing update), Additional work to be budgeted, 2nd bullet, should be “since 2015” rather than “through 2015”. With that change, the June minutes were approved.
- No recent news from Ursula.

4. Status of Turing update (Levin)

- The key question on the table to what to do next in this project.
- Options:

- Should we reconsider the individuals for whom we did not conduct an interview because we found existing material? That material may not be adequate, so it could be better to do a full interview in the same style as the others in this collection. Such work would need to be scoped and funded.
- Should we focus on interviewing the more recent awardees, those since 2015? Here, there is a budget plan, but David is not yet engaged on an on-going basis. This would require an ACM contract and agreement from the History Committee..
- The website snippets prototyped by Tom Haigh seem good. Need to decide now how to continue this work, probably with Tom driving the process and continued subcommittee oversight. This work requires setting Tom's stipend so he can proceed with developing the snippets, of which there are dozens.
- Mary: Are videos linked to website? This includes some legal issues as well as a few technical issues, such as the making the start and stop points in the video start and stop smooth. Does ACM really want to continuing the videos and snippets on YouTube or would they prefer to host in-site? If ACM hosted the videos, it improves the ability to make the videos slicker and more professional.
- Barb: List of all videos? Roy explained that the list has become unlinked from the web tree for the summary page. This is in part related to moving the history committee materials / website to a new location.
- Erik suggested linking to Youtube with metadata for the time parameters, which Kim believes is what Tom did.
- Roy suggested that this requires attention from the ACM IT folks.
- Mary: Should Roy develop a proposal for next time? Roy: Need to talk to David J to determine whether he wants to continue and to Tom H regarding the snippets. Must develop a plan and determine the budget implications.
- Roy: Is money allocated for Turing work in our current budget? We noted that around \$25K is allocated for web work and interviews, which does not include snippets or Tom's pilot work. This budget may not be sufficient for doing new snippets as well as coordinating interviewers, etc.
- ACTION: Roy will confer with David and develop a proposal (with funding) for going forward to share at the next meeting.

5. Heritage update (Almstrum, Wick)

- Vicki, Amanda and Kim has a meeting a while back. Need to set up mailing list. Does everyone want to be on mailing list from HC? Initial feedback was limited (about 5 people). Amanda has ideas for Heritage web site. Web site is leveraging web work. Blog entry made for history.acm.org and sent to SGB.

6. India Oral History update (Maheshwari)

- Sachin was not present at the meeting and had not sent a report.

7. Web work (Tracy, Almstrum)

- Progress report:

- Kim has been able to update the current history.acm.org site to reflect current membership as well as other changes in information.
- ACM IT plans to decommission the server where history.acm.org is currently hosted. It is unclear whether they have a planned date for this or if the date is dependent on having current sites complete migration.
- Kim has full access to the new web site hosting service and has started the process of setting up the new version of the site as a WordPress-based site using an ACM theme. (<https://historydev.acm.org/>)
- The old version of the site includes a connected site for the History Committee blog, which is another old WordPress site. We should review this content and decide what to migrate, as this provides at least a partial history of the ACM History Committee's work.
- Kim has backed up the content of the old site and put it on the HC Operations Google Drive as a tar/zip of the entire site plus selected files for things such as the notes.
- Kim discovered several years of ACM Council Meeting Notes (1947-198x) and copied these to our Ops area on Google Drive. It is unclear why these notes were there, but they were very interesting to go back and read through.
- Kim is developing a proposed structure for the new site and identifying WordPress Plug-ins that will be useful on our site(s) (which depends in part on what we want to do with them).
- ACTIONS FOR CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT (Kim and Vicki)
 - Kim continue work. We must develop a plan for getting others involved in this process. Kim has set up Slack, which may help with coordination.
 - Vicki make similar set-up progress for heritage.acm.org and the CEOHP migration.
- ACTIONS FOR INPUT (entire committee)
 - Review the old (current) site (history.acm.org) and suggest functionality and form for the new site.
 - Review outside sites for ideas. Here are some sites suggested by ACM IT that are already released with the new ACM WordPress theme: energy.acm.org, scc.acm.org, women.acm.org, womencourage.acm.org
 - Suggest archiving and other resources that should be included on the History Committee's website.

8. New topics

- Mary pointed out that someone on HC must have the task of overseeing work on Chuck's ACM Awardee project. Chuck pointed out that Len and Roy were mentioned for this in the annual report, so this is underway.
- ACTION: Barb: Identify who is on each committee. Barb will distribute a note to allow everyone to indicate their current membership or wishes.
- Barb: It is important to incorporate ACM's global view and history, including ACM-Europe, ACM-India, ACM-Asia, etc. The HC should recruit one or more members to keep those communities engaged.
- ACTION: Fellowship follow-up underway (Vicki, Erik, Len)

9. Next meeting Monday, September 16 at 11am EDT / 8am PDT

- ACTION Eric Rau: Erik has an account and has offered to take responsibility for setting up meetings in Zoom. Chuck agreed and handed over that responsibility..

10. Conclusion 9:00 am PDT