ACM History Committee Meeting Minutes, September 21, 2020 (v. 1)

1. Welcome (Owens)
- Meeting began at 11:00am EDT / 8:00am PDT via Zoom

2. Attendees (House)
- Barbara Boucher Owens (chair)
- Vicki Almstrum
- David Brock
- Carol Hutchins
- Roy Levin
- Bernadette Longo
- Ursula Martin
- Sachin Maheshwari
- Erik Rau
- Kim Tracy
- Mary Whitton
- Amanda Wick
- Jeffrey Yost

Guests
- Charles House

Not present
- All present

3. Minutes from August meeting (Almstrum)
- Accepted with no corrections.

4. Finances (Whitton, Rau)
- Very little activity currently.

5. Status of Turing update (Levin)
- Tom moving forward on posting various items, including snippets.
- David is working with two transcripts that he has not been able to upload due to a constraint.
- Good luck with a talk recorded by Allen Newell about 6 months before he died. The talk provides a partial career perspective. CMU agreed to make it available, so it will be added to the Turing website.
- Chuck agrees that finding similar interviews for people appropriate for the ACM Awards project is of interest. Many potential interviewees have already passed.

- Discussed creating a notice for CACM seeking existing interviews with various winners.
  - Focus: Turing Award winners and other ACM Notables who have passed.
  - Need to start from the oldest decade and move forward.
  - Who will curate? Roy expects he would do this for the Turing project.
  - CHM and CBI may have materials that could be of interest for this effort.
- Key point: unearth resources we do not yet know about.
- ACTION ITEM: Roy will create a draft and circulate it.
- Barb emphasized the need to consider non-traditional and non-USA.

6. Web work (Tracy, Almstrum, Wick)

- Discussed the process of feedback from ACM IT.
- Kim is still waiting to have the old web blog for the committee imported to the new site.
- Decided to create a summary document of open issues for ACM IT. We will set up a document that summarizes all of the HC action items with respect to ACM IT.
- ACTION ITEM: Vicki will create a document where we can collect concerns.

7. Fellowships and Heritage Project

For Fellowships:
- Last year's call is a good starting point.
- ACTION ITEM: Mary will update the call. Fellowship committee members will review.
- Must consider the budget for the Heritage portion. How should it be allocated? Part should be for Fellowships, part for Heritage-style projects.
- Should we begin to allow some projects for larger amounts?
- Decision was to leave the call very similar to that we have had in earlier years.
- Jeff: Must we consider extensions for the 2020 Fellowships due to the changes during the Pandemic? Decided it would be good to reach out and ask how recipients are doing.
- Ursula pointed out that some recipients changed planned travel.
- Mary had updates on some winners. For some projects, progress has been good. For others, the quarantine has slowed things down.
- ACTION ITEM: Bernadette will draft letters to the winners. Barb will distribute.
- Mary reminded about planned amounts:
  - Online workshop $12.5 K
  - Fellowships $16K
  - Heritage $10K

For Heritage:
- We discussed the ideas around consultation services, a workshop, and the fellowships.
- Amanda and Vicki will tend to the White Paper proposal.

8. International (Martin)

- Ursula has considered ideas for encouraging international attention via the SIGs. Because several SIGs have a strong international aspect, this can be a strategy for encouraging broader coverage.
- ACTION ITEM: Ursula will write a paragraph about this (carried forward from August)

9. India Oral History update (Maheshwari)

- There is progress. The first recording session took place about 10 days ago. Sachen has worked with the file and had shared it with David and Ursula the day before our September meeting. He is anxious to have feedback regarding what they are doing right, what they can improve.
- He looks forward to additional recordings, and is anxious to receive comments.
- Ursula reported difficulty with the quality of the distributed recording and wondered whether this could be due to the way in which the recording was shared. Could there be alternatives for how to share a higher-res version?
- Sachen also sought advice for how to provide the best quality version.
- David Brock suggested downloading a file and playing it locally, rather than playing it through dropbox.

10. ACM Award Video Series (House)

- Chuck had interviewed Amanda Randalls (GMH 2020 award), who was the youngest interviewee so far. It was a wonderful interview. She rents a supercomputer time to do blood flow analysis for individual people. She was called out of the blue in March to bid on the design of a new respirator, which her group received. Chuck found this to be an incredible story for how they quickly figured out how to accomplish this.
- The ACM Award Video Series project ends next year. The big question is what should be done with the material that has been collected.
- Mary asked whether the oral histories in this project are being indexed in the DL. Chuck;s response us that It is not yet indexed but will be.
- Mary added that the interviews being done by Mary's SIGGRAPH history group will go into ACM's DL.

11. Additional Business

- IDEA: Publicity process -- press releases, ads in magazines.
- IDEA: Workshop to help people know how to approach research using archived information and create articles, books, reports.
- SHOUT-OUT: Carol mentioned the CBI essay journal (created by Jeff and Amanda). Good information, interesting to read. Provides an example for how to highlight information.
- Kim: SGB meeting is October 23. Anything we want to take up? One idea is International Award winners and materials from the SIGs.
- Next meeting: Barb asks that we each arrive in masks at the beginning of the meeting. "Our other persona"

12. Upcoming meetings
Monday, October 19, 2020, 11:00 am EDT via Zoom

13. Conclusion 12:00 pm EDT / 9:00 am PDT