

# ACM History Committee Meeting

## Minutes, January 17, 2022 (v. 2)

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### Welcome (Owens)

- Meeting began at 11:00am EST / 8:00am PST via Zoom

### 1. Attendees (Owens)

- Barbara Boucher Owens (chair)
- Vicki Almstrum
- Troy Astarte
- Judith Bishop
- Carol Hutchins
- Roy Levin
- Anna Loup
- Sachin Maheshwari
- Erik Rau
- Kim Tracy
- Mary Whitton
- Amanda Wick
- Jeffrey Yost
- Chuck House (guest)

#### ***Not in attendance***

- David Brock

### 2. Minutes from October and November 2021 meeting (Almstrum)

- October 18, 2021 minutes: After a small correction, minutes were approved.
- November 15, 2021 minutes: Deferred. We will discuss and approve via email.
- The December 2021 meeting was canceled, so no minutes.
- Zoom links from our meetings.
  - Vicki emphasized how useful the recordings are for creating the minutes. The current process for the minutes only relies on the most recent 2 or 3 months.
  - Have set up a Google spreadsheet with the links and access codes.
  - Kim reported that it may be that the recordings remain about two years.
  - Considered strategies for access to the links
    - Talked about our records retention strategy and when to remove links; one approach would be when the minutes are older than a year; another would be to remove once the minutes are approved.
    - Kim will double-check permissions for access to the folder with the links.

- The question came up regarding how long recordings are retained by our Zoom account. We do not have information about how the Zoom account is set up.
  - Discussed the desire to retain important outside presentations and whether we would like to retain certain guest presentations. This becomes a question of records retention.
- ACTION ITEM: Vicki + Kim + Amanda + Carol to discuss and develop a proposal.

### 3. Brief updates on committee work

#### a. Budget and Finances (Whitton, Rau)

- No updates since our November meeting. No information yet about spending and account balances for the current year's budget (7/2021 – 6/2022).
- Erik brought up what we should propose for the budget for the coming year (7/2022 – 6/2023). We voted that the new budget should keep the same levels of spending as for the current year.
- The new contractor for the Turing Project does not change the budget because of the way in which the two contractors have agreed to split the available funds.
- Phase II for the ACM Awards project was allocated as Development money so is not part of the History Committee's regular budget. Chuck will be doing the follow-up to put this together.
- Roy noted that Wayne Graves has recently moved from his role as IT Manager to a new role as the DL Manager. At this point, Pat Ryan is the person overseeing the IT department.
- ACTION ITEM: Roy was to have a meeting with Pat Ryan the next day and promised to discuss the access to budget information with her.

#### b. Outreach (Hutchins)

- Nothing new to report. We know Bruce Shriver will be the primary contact person regarding outreach, although this does not restrict us from contacting others as we discover opportunities.
- Barb brought up the ACM blurbs that are published frequently in the bulletin about Award winners and other members and how those are archived. Roy responded that this is basically a question about MemberNet. Carol had checked on this a while back and learned that old issues are available if one knows where to look. Chuck mentioned that these have been useful in preparing for interviews; he suggested they may be in the Digital Library, but Carol believes it is just a part of ACM's open web content. Roy reported that [membernet.acm.org](http://membernet.acm.org) appears to include all issues that have been distributed electronically since 2013.
- Barb suggested sending a thank you to ACM for retaining items such as these earlier issues of MemberNet. Tracking member accomplishments is an important aspect of the history of ACM.

- Troy pointed out that the current situation is retention rather than archival. We discussed the danger of “losing” items that are on the website and that information should be archived by adding it to the Digital Library.
- Barb will send a letter to ACM HQ to describe this as a charge for the History Committee. The letter will be addressed to Pat Ryan, with copies to Wayne Graves and Vicki Hanson.
  - What is intended to go into the DL.
  - What is the backend storage for items destined for the DL.
  - The discussions should encompass different types of media (including video and audio)
  - Carol pointed out the ACM DL final report as a framework to which this can relate. (Link to item: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xvnbcxq0sNwrr5I0EBksAuUKtGFrnHaf/view?usp=sharing>)
- Amanda explained the relationship between CBI as the archival agency for the ACM (primarily hard copy archival) and the "cold storage" ACM has established in support of the SIGs (which may have stalled at this point). CBI is not currently set up for digital archival and setting this up at U. Minnesota would require significant funding. Important for ACM Corporate to think about this.
- ACTION ITEM: Carol + Roy + Vicki + Amanda will draft a letter for Barb.
- ACTION ITEM: Vicki will share the unsent letter about IT problems with Judith, Anna, and Troy, which Roy reminded us includes some of the same issues we are considering now.

### c. Turing update (Levin)

- An interview with Pat Hanrahan is pending. He has agreed in principle to a face-to-face format, with the date and other logistics still undecided. David Brock will probably be the interviewer.

### d. Web work, including ACM page update (Tracy, Owens)

- Kim has been continuing to do updates. The meeting minutes are posted and he has posted the sample proposal provided by Anna.

### e. Heritage Project + Preservation Outreach (Almstrum, Wick)

- Most of the recent progress has been related to planning for the workshop.
- See the section about Workshop Planning.

### f. Global (Maheshwari, Hutchins, Bishop)

- Sachin reported that the progress with the India project is slower than he had hoped. He is focusing on arranging for the retrospective interviews about Dutta Majumder.
- Judith has nothing to add, but would like to talk about the goals related to globalization. Dame Wendy Hall will be visiting in South Africa, so Judith will discuss ideas for global efforts, especially related to history and SIGs.

#### g. ACM Award Video Series (House)

- Chuck had nothing significant to report.

#### h. Other?

- No additional points.

### 4. Workshop planning (Whitton, Almstrum)

- Vicki, Anna, and Amanda brainstormed and captured ideas in a planning document.
- Discussion points:
  - Discussed the type of event (seminar, workshop, symposium?), probably a seminar
  - Event will be on-line only, probably via Zoom
  - Overall theme: Capturing Hidden SIG Heritage
  - Discussed ideas for outside speakers as part of the program.
  - Notion of “ACM Universe” or ACM Global Membership
  - Potential exemplars: SIGs that have made progress with capturing their history.
  - SIG-specific issues to cover as part of the agenda, including key topics (such as oral histories and digital archiving) and nice-to-have topics.
  - Logistics support from experienced sources (for example, Anna’s partner Dustin).
- Timing: May or June?
- Additional questions that came up during discussion
  - Is there a list of the "history" people for each SIG?
  - Are the people who attended the workshop in 2019 still active?
  - Will this be specific to a particular SIG or will it gather several different SIGs? Troy suggested advantages of making the experience “SIG native”.
  - Can we do follow-ups to a seminar with smaller group activities that include hands-on activities, possibly even topically? This could also pull in several SIGs with specific overlapping concerns.
  - Can we follow up with a “road show” that targets SIG conferences / symposia to provide customized workshops about the Heritage effort?
- Continued planning
  - The planning group of Vicki, Amanda, and Anna will be the driving force. Mary is deeply involved with SIGGRAPH 50th anniversary work but, if we return to an in-person format at some point, will happily coordinate local arrangements at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
  - ACTION ITEMS: Planning group will develop a draft call, speaker list, schedule, budget, and exemplars

### 5. Fellowship (Tracy, Whitton)

- Kim will send out a reminder about the fellowship. Proposals are due February 14 (Valentine’s Day). The committee will meet sometime after that.
- Kim noted that there are no submissions yet. He had received a question from Iran about submissions from that country. Kim asked Pat Ryan, who said it should be possible, but distributing the money to someone in Iran could take a year or more.

## 6. Additional business

- Troy may have to miss the committee meetings this semester due to a conflict with their teaching schedule. Vicki is also unable to participate at the usual time due to a teaching conflict this semester.
- Barb will distribute a WhenIsGood query to seek another time that might work for everyone.

## 7. Upcoming meetings

Monday, February 21, 2021, via Zoom (time TBD)

## 8. Conclusion 12:10 pm EST / 9:10 am PST