

ACM History Committee Meeting

Minutes, June 20, 2023

Welcome (Owens)

- Meeting began at 12:00pm EDT /9:00am PDT via Zoom
- Welcome to all.

1. Attendees (Owens)

- Barbara Boucher Owens (chair)
- Vicki Almstrum
- Troy Astarte
- David Brock
- Jonathan Grudin
- Carol Hutchins
- Sachin Maheshwari
- Kim Tracy
- Mary Whitton
- Chuck House (guest)
- Vicki Hanson (guest, CEO of ACM), joined at 12:40pm EDT

Not in attendance

- ac Loup
- Erik Rau
- John Tucker
- Jeffrey Yost

2. Minutes status (Secretariat / Almstrum, Astarte)

- The February 2023 minutes were updated to respond to a comment from Erik Rau. Finalized and sent to Kim to post.
- The March minutes had been approved, so have been sent to Kim to post.
- The April and May were reviewed and approved. Kim will post.
- We reminded everyone that reading and approving the minutes is important even for those who did not attend the meeting.

3. Annual report (Owens, Secretariat)

- ACM HQ had not yet distributed any information about the content or due date of this year's annual report. It is normally due at the end of July, but in recent years the due date has been in August.
- Vicki has created drafts of the report itself and the appendix with member contact information.

- The Secretariat will drive the process of developing the report and ensuring the appendix is updated.

4. Committee membership and recruitment (Owens)

- Erik has resigned from the committee due to other commitments. The effective date for his resignation is still unclear.
- John Tucker has not yet started to participate. Troy will contact him in the near future and help ensure that John has access to the mailing list and the HC Operations drive.
- Criteria for committee members, including the quest for a more global and diverse set of members.
 - Barbara discussed this again to encourage attention to diversity.
 - Mary pointed out the importance of considering background, in addition to other diversity issues. This could include, for example, working in industry, being a historian, experience curating oral histories.
 - Mary reminded us of a suggestion from last fall to revisit who might be invited following the SIGGRAPH 50th celebration.
- Subcommittee assignments
 - Because Erik and Mary are both leaving the HC, it is high priority to assign people to the budget and finance subcommittee.
 - Jonathan has agreed to become part of the Heritage Project subcommittee.
- We discussed formalizing the notion of “ad-hoc community-minded members” or advisory positions. For example, we can consider Chuck House and Tom Haigh to be in ad-hoc roles. This could be a person with relevant expertise who is unable to commit to full time participation in the committee.

5. Brief updates on committee work

a. Secretariat

- Vicki and Troy continue to make progress with their audit of the HC Operations drive as time allows.

b. Fellowship (Tracy, Whitton)

- Kim has made additional updates to the spreadsheet with info on the history of the fellowship programme. The spreadsheet is still missing abstracts and affiliations for the awards after 2020, which the Secretariat can fill in as they continue their audit process.

c. Budget and Finance (Whitton, Rau)

- The budget for this FY will be underspent.
- Mary noted that the process with fellowship funding does not immediately zero out that part of the budget. For many recipients, the amount is applied toward summer travel, so that funding may be drawn during the following academic year.

- Discussed travel funding for committee members going to conferences where they represent the History Committee, with recent examples of support being for Barb's participation in the ACM banquet and David's participation in a conference.
- Important to appoint new subcommittee members for the budget and finance subcommittee.

d. Turing Awardee History Project (Brock)

- Topic deferred to the next meeting because of time.

e. ACM Key Awards Video Series (House)

- Chuck is preparing a status report for the annual report.
- March action item for David: we need to get an ACM license to utilize the extant CHM interviews, including for snippets

f. Heritage Project (Almstrum, Loup, Grudin)

- Topic deferred to the next meeting because of time.

g. Global (Maheshwari, Hutchins)

- Topic deferred to the next meeting because of time.

h. Outreach, Marketing, Web presence (Hutchins, Tracy)

- Kim reported a problem with the HC website login, which he has reported to ACM IT. They are investigating. The Heritage and CEOHP sites did not have the same problem.

i. DEIA follow-up

- Vicki Hanson, CEO ACM, regarding Accessibility Awareness
 - ACM accessibility policies: acm.org/accessibility
 - Adding "A" to the DEI Council name, either DEIA or IDEA (Council site: acm.org/diversity-inclusion/)
 - Two SIGs are directly relevant in the DEIA arena: SIGACCESS, SIGCHI
 - Digital access statement from ACM (Section 508, WCAG, W3C)
 - For the Digital Library and the ACM website, efforts to ensure accessibility include the use of automatic accessibility checking tools, focus groups, and third party consultants.
 - For digital accessibility, the goal is to follow WCAG 2.0 Level A standards.
 - For conferences, SIGACCESS started a guide several years ago. The latest version is from 2019 (sigaccess.org/welcome-to-sigaccess/resources/accessible-conference-guide/)

- “Words Matter”: examples from DEI Council and SIGACCESS (acm.org/diversity-inclusion/words-matter)
- We have added Vicki H.’s presentation to the DEIA folder in both Powerpoint format and 2-up PDF.
- Vicki A. reported that she has attended several sessions of the NSF-sponsored event on *Disrupting Ableism and Advancing STEM: A National Leadership Summit* during the past two weeks (June 5-16) (nationalacademies.org/event/06-16-2023/disrupting-ableism-and-advancing-stem-rooting-out-bias-and-barriers)
- The Secretariat has added a new folder on HC Operations drive for DEIA issues.

j. Curriculum input

- Regarding the CC2023 SEP follow-up (an action item from March), Vicki forwarded the message from the CC2023 SEP committee to the History Committee (email dated June 12).
- Carol suggested looking at the history of the HC fellowship grants for ideas that contribute to these curricular efforts.
- No specific action items emerged for how to provide input.

k. Other?

- Nothing to add.

6. Pending issues

- Digital Preservation Strategy, History of ACM webpage(s), Timeline idea
 - Mary raised the issue of the Digital Preservation Strategy with Vicki H., just to emphasize our concerns and the importance of this area.
 - Deferred to the next meeting because of time.

7. Additional business

- Barb and Chuck were present at the annual ACM Banquet in June, which provided ample opportunity to promote the work of the HC. They will provide a report during our next meeting.
- Other business deferred to email discussion and the next meeting.

8. Next meeting Tuesday, July 18, 12:00 noon EDT via Zoom

9. Conclusion 1:15 pm EDT