

# ACM History Committee Meeting

## Minutes, August 15, 2025

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### Welcome (Tracy)

- Meeting began at 12:00pm ET / 9:00am PT via Zoom

### 1. Attendees (Tracy)

- Kim Tracy (chair)
- Vicki Almstrum
- Troy Astarte
- Jonathan Grudin
- Andrew Meade McGee
- Barbara Boucher Owens
- Dag Spicer
- Jeffrey Yost

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

- Meenakshi D'Souza
- Dave Kasik
- Mara Mills
- John Tucker

### 2. Minutes status (Secretariat / Almstrum, Astarte)

- Face-to-Face meeting on June 13: Minutes are ready for review; a few small issues remain to resolve.
- June 20 and July 18 meetings: Minutes available for review and voting.
- Once we have sufficiently many votes to approve these three sets of minutes, they will be posted on the HC website.

### 3. Committee membership and recruitment (Tracy)

- Kim had received an expression of interest, so will follow up with this person.

### 4. Annual report status (Tracy, Astarte, Almstrum)

- We spent the bulk of the meeting discussing the report. Some key points that came up during our discussion:
  - Important material was still missing by the time of this meeting, so Kim will seek permission to submit the report later than Monday, August 18.
  - Sachin provided Vicki with updates for the India Technical Leaders Oral History Project. His report also highlighted the need for ensuring clear preservation procedures for all of the HC projects that include oral histories.

- Further, because the goals are similar across our oral history projects, we agreed to investigate how to add this material into the DL so it can be available as quickly as possible once finalized and approved. This process can piggyback off the work that has been done to create the premier issue of *Heritage Insights*; Vicki will bring this up with Tom Haigh (Turing Project) and Craig Rodkin (ACM DL).
- At the time of this meeting, we had not yet received updates for the Key Awards Project or the Turing Project. Both Chuck House and Tom Haigh had responded via email that they were committed to providing updates by the weekend.
- We noticed that the report was repetitive for several areas, so the Secretariat vowed to streamline across sections to better meet the goal of each section and to avoid giving the same information multiple times.
- For the projects that are in transition (Key Awards, India Project), we will adjust the prose to make this clear.
- We will collaborate on the executive summary portion when most of the rest of the report has been completed. Kim recommends adding our desire for better integration with ACM structures in the executive summary.
- Vicki was scheduled to meet with Tom Haigh later in the day to share her experience with the process of setting up the seminar recordings for the premier issue of *Heritage Insights* in the ACM Digital Library. He is interested in doing something similar for the Turing Project interviews. Andrew will join the Zoom meeting and Vicki will record so Dag can also hear the results.
- Troy noticed a discrepancy between the name of the Fellowships program and the URL. Troy will simplify the URL to /fellowships.
- The premier issue of *Heritage Insights* should be ready by soon. Updates to transcripts are still underway and we will add more branding. A few recording issues are also being fixed. We are optimistic that the lessons learned will be helpful for future video publication in the ACM Digital Library.
- In the section about new projects, we can include our work toward developing a clear guideline for how to add video elements (such as oral histories) into the ACM Digital Library. Another topic that can fit nicely in this section is the goal for the HC to be better involved in upcoming celebrations.
- For the section about committee diversity, Troy will create a poll to seek the diversity information listed in the sample committee report and update in our annual report.
- We discussed making the Comments section briefer — what are we excited or concerned about this year?

## 5. Project team reports (Tracy)

- Discussion of the project team work was embedded in our annual report discussions.
- Our project team areas:
  - Preservation and inclusion of OH videos into DL (Astarte, Tracy)
  - ACM Heritage (Almstrum, Grudin, Kasik; Barb advisory)
  - CS History and disability connections (Mills, Yost, McGee)

## 6. CHM connections from visit (Tracy)

- Deferred.

## 7. Updates on committee work (brief)

- Committee work was incorporated in the discussion for the annual report.

## 8. Additional issues

- Anniversaries
  - We discussed creating a calendar to help us track events that are about 5 years out.
  - Regarding the 60th anniversary of the Turing Award in 2026, Vicki will raise the question of this event with Tom Haigh during the meeting she is having with him later today.
- Vicki asked whether members can be allowed to use the ACM HC account for Zoom meetings related to committee issues. We considered two options. The first was to request that Kim or Troy set up the meeting on behalf of the person (requires sufficient advance warning). The second option would be to allow for sharing the login with multiple committee members. We discussed, but no decision was made.
- We observed in passing that it would be good to invite Vicki Hanson to a meeting where we discuss arrangements for the event Mara is hosting as a nice combination of interests. We will also ask Vicki H. about progress with the volunteer recognition project.
- Barb raised the question of using or promoting the use of AI tools for doing HC work.
- John Halberd contacted Barb about newsletters from the LA ACM Chapter, dating from the 1950s. The LA ACM Chapter is shutting down. Barb will connect John with the archivist at CBI, Amanda Wick.
- The ACM History Committee is 20 years old! How are we going to document and present our own history? Vicki had shared via email four historical documents (2003 to 2005) that show the development from being an ad hoc project to a committee.

## 9. Next meeting

- September 18, 2025, 12 noon Eastern time

## 10. Conclusion 13:02