

# ACM History Committee Meeting Minutes, October 17, 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
- Dave Kasik
- Andrew Meade McGee (attending in personal capacity, not representing his employer)
- Barbara Boucher Owens (joined in the last few minutes)
- Dag Spicer
- John Tucker

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

- Meenakshi D'Souza
- Mara Mills
- Jeffrey Yost

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

- August 15 minutes approved, ready to post.
- September 19 minutes ready and circulated, but not yet enough votes to approve.

## 3. Committee membership and recruitment (Tracy)

- Troy announced plans to resign from the HC due to changes at their university. They expect to continue through the end of this academic year / until we have added an appropriate new member.
- We discussed implications for transferring Troy's current responsibilities. One idea is to give the whole Secretariat access to the "keys" for the HC electronic resources.
- HC members should share ideas for new members directly with Kim.

## 4. ACM/IEEE Computing Curriculum Update (Tucker, Almstrum, Tracy)

- The computing curriculum subcommittee held a meeting to discuss the joint ACM/IEEE computing curriculum. Participants included Vicki, Kim, and John from the HC, as well as Alison Clear and Susan Reiser. Alison is the chair of ACM's Living Curriculum Committee, while Susan served as an ACM representative on the committee for the 2023 Computing Curriculum. John has circulated a meeting report, which is located in both the October minutes folder and in the Curriculum and Education issues folder.

- John observed that ACM has contributed to seven different curricular recommendations. <https://www.acm.org/education/curricula-recommendations>
- Alison explained the Living Curriculum task force and its progress. The goal is an open and community-focused approach that allows on-going suggestions and updates, with input from the community and moderation by the committee. The target start date is August 2026.
- The task force members indicated that the general attitude toward including more aspects of computing history has been positive, which supports our goal of pursuing this further.
- John shared a link for a new article he has written, “Tangibles and computing education: A view from the history of computing”: <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3769855>

## 5. Follow-up on Significant Anniversary email correspondence (All)

- Kim has started to collect information about anniversaries and significant start dates for ACM units, which aligns with the work Jonathan and Dave have been doing for SIGs.
- Jonathan notes that when the open DL is fully launched, information is likely to be scooped up as training data for generative AI, which may allow preliminary historical information to be gathered from these tools.
- Kim now has a list of SIG chairs. We discussed that he can write to the chairs to discuss ideas for how the HC can contribute to and support their anniversary celebrations.

## 6. Project team reports (Tracy)

- Preservation and inclusion of OH videos into DL (Astarte, Tracy, Almstrum)
  - Vicki, Meenakshi, and Kim are planning a meeting about the India project, ensuring we have all the material, and determining next steps. We hope Sachin can join the process.
  - An important “to do” is to document the process we want to have in place for preserving and highlighting oral histories collected as part of the HC’s various project.
  - Troy located a video within the Digital Library as evidence that there has been a workflow for storing video content. Next steps will be to work out how to make this process work on a consistent basis. The video is a Turing Award Lecture, so we also discussed what might be needed to organize and preserve those recordings as well. Dag noted that the recording of Englebart’s lecture is owned by the Englebart Foundation and, as far as we know, not in ACM’s possession.
  - Jonathan mentioned rumors via SIGHPC (High Performance Computing) about an ACM archive. Kim will contact the SIGHPC chair, Christine Harvey, to follow up this and understand what it was about.
- ACM Heritage (Almstrum, Grudin, Kasik; Barb advisory)
  - The process of finalizing transcripts of recordings from the seminar continues to delay the process of finalizing the first issue of *Heritage Insights*. We agreed to set a firm deadline at the end of November, at which point we will publish what we have, which is also Craig Rodkin’s desire. We can update later as it becomes available.
  - At our November meeting, when this is nearly done, we will decide about Issue 2.
  - We discussed inviting previous fellowship holders to submit articles / reports for a special issue.

- CS History and disability connections (Mills, Yost, McGee)
  - Mara confirmed via email before the meeting that events at NYU are usually held either fully in person or fully online, not hybrid. Online is preferred for better reach. Doing the seminar we have discussed online works fine for the HC, but means we will disconnect plans for a face to face meeting from this seminar.
  - Vicki mentioned the CBI Fall 2025 Colloquium, scheduled for October 24, featuring Elizabeth Petrick, History, Rice University, “Embodiment and Mobility in Online Technologies: From Computerized Conferencing to Tablets”, <https://cse.umn.edu/hstm/events/fall-2025-colloquium-elizabeth-petrick>

## 7. Updates on committee work (brief)

- Turing Project (McGee, Spicer)
  - Andrew met with Tom about the Turing project during his brief time at the SHOT meeting in Luxembourg. He will share notes.
- Finances (Astarte)
  - The naming procedure ACM uses for FYs was clarified: the number indicates the year in which the FY ends. Therefore it is now FY2026, and will be until June 2026.
  - Troy encouraged ACM HC members who spend from the HC budget to record expenses in the spreadsheet in the Finances folder of the Drive. The alternative is to send a total spend to Troy for them to add in the spreadsheet. This helps the finance subcommittee match our expenditures to that reported in the ACM Finance Reporting Management (FMR) system.
- Heritage work with SIGs (Grudin, Kasik)
  - Dave and Jonathan prepared a survey about SIG histories and shared it with the SIG Board for circulation. At this point, the survey has not attracted responses and the process has been difficult. Their new strategy will be to approach individual SIGs.
  - Some history questions on the survey that could be gathered during this process, such as the date the SIG was founded and anniversaries, are complicated by the fact that some SIGs have over time merged, split, and been renamed.
- Other
  - No additional updates.

## 8. Additional business

- The LA chapter newsletters have been received by CBI.
- Andrew suggested we consider SIGCIS 2026 as an opportunity to co-locate a face to face meeting of the HC. The site does not yet provide dates or location for this event.

## 9. Next meeting

- November 21, 2025, 12 noon Eastern time
- By this meeting date, countries that shift from summer time (Daylight Saving in the USA) to standard time will have done so. This change primarily affects Meenakshi in India.

## 10. Conclusion 13:02