

Candidate for Chair

Alan F. Smeaton
Dublin City University, Dublin, Ireland

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University College Dublin, 1987, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Professor of Computing, Dublin City University, Dublin, 1997 – Present;
Director, Centre for Data Analytics, Dublin City University, Dublin, 2013 – 2019;
Board member, Irish Research Council, Dublin, 2012 – 2019.

Professional Interest:

Video analysis, browsing, search and summarization; Lifelogging; Using technology for memory support; Ambient assisted living; Digital humanities.

ACM Activities:

General Co-Chair, 23rd ACM Multimedia Conference, Brisbane, Australia, SIGMM, 2015;
Technical Program Co-Chair, ICMR, Hong Kong, SIGMM, 2012;
Program Co-Chair, MultiMedia Modeling Conference, Sophia Antipolis, France, SIGMM, 2009;
Program Co-Chair, ACM SIGIR Conference, Toronto, Canada, SIGIR, 2003.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Founding Coordinator of TRECVID, NIST, 2001 – Present;
Founding Program Committee for TREC, NIST, 1991 – 1996;
Member, Founding Editorial Board, Information Retrieval Journal, Kluwer Publishers, 1998 – 2007.

Awards Received:

Fellow of the IEEE, 2017;
Gold Medal for Engineering Sciences, Royal Irish Academy, 2015;
Irish Software Association shortlist for Outstanding Academic Achievement of the Year, 2015;
Tony Kent Strix award, awarded by UK eInformation Group, 2011.

STATEMENT

I am honored to run for the position of Chair of SIGMM. I've been an active member of ACM since I hosted the SIGIR conference in Dublin in 1994 and have served in various roles for SIGMM events since the early 2000s.

I see two ways in which we can maintain and grow SIGMM's relevance and importance. The first is to grow collaborations we have with other areas. Multimedia technologies are now a foundation stone in many application areas, from digital humanities to educational technologies, from gaming to healthcare. If elected chair I will seek to reach out to other areas collaboratively, whereby their multimedia problems become our challenges, and developments in our area become their solutions.

My second priority will be to support a deepening of collaborations within our field. Already we have shown leadership in collaborative research with our Grand Challenges, Videolympics, and the huge leverage we get from shared datasets, but I believe this could be even better.

By reaching out to others and by deepening collaborations, this will improve SIGMM's ability to attract and support new members while keeping existing members energised and rejuvenated, ensuring SIGMM is the leading special interest group on multimedia.

Candidate for Chair

Arnold W.M. Smeulders
University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Leyden the Netherlands, 1983, Pattern Analysis of Cervical Cells.

Professional Experience:

Professor of Computer Science (initially Bio-Informatics), University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1991 – Present;

Director, COMMIT, The national public private program for ICT Science, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2010 – Present;

Chair, IPN, National Policy Committee, Den Haag, Netherlands, 1999 – 2005.

Professional Interest:

Computer Vision; Visual Lingual Information Barrier; Multimedia Information Systems.

Awards Received:

Elected Member, Academia Europeana, 2014;

Fellow, IAPR, 2001;

Honorary Chairman, NVPBHV, 1999;

ACM Multimedia Conference Honorary Chair, 2016.

STATEMENT

It is like multimedia is in the eye of the technological storm: computer vision, natural language processing, audio analysis, man-machine interaction, authoring, and distributed systems are all flourishing. And where these areas have achieved amazing improvement in their results, the final interest is in the integration of all these components into functioning processing and handling information from any source for any reasonable purpose. How then, if the attention for fields around multimedia is exponentially growing, is the attention for multimedia only calmly growing? I think that it is about time for contributing single media technologies to develop into maturity before integrating systems, evaluation, and methods have established their right of way. When elected, it will be a pleasure to help the community to develop.

Candidate for Chair

Abdulmotaleb El Saddik
University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Dr.-Ing., Technical University of Darmstadt, 2001, Information Technology.

Professional Experience:

Distinguished Professor, University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 2014 – Present;
Executive Director, Medical Device Innovation Institute, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 2016 – 2019;
Professor, University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 2008 – Present.

Professional Interest:

Multimedia Computing, Communications, and Applications; Multimodal Interactions;
Multisensory Data-Fusion; Haptics Audio Visual Environments; Social Media.

ACM Activities:

Co-Chair of ACM ICMR 2019, SIGMM, 2017 – 2019;
Senior Associate Editor - ACM TOMM, SIGMM, 2016 – 2019;
Member of ACM SIG Multimedia Conference Steering Committee, SIGMM, 2011 – 2014;
Co-Chair of ACM SIGMM conference, 2008.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Board of Directors, Medical Device Commercialization Centre, 2016 – 2019;
Founding Chair of IEEE HAVE, IEEE – Instrumentation and Measurement, 2002 – Present;
IEEE Technical Committee on Interactive and Wearable Computing and Devices, IEEE SMC,
2015 – 2018.

Awards Received:

ACM TOMM Best Paper Award, 2015;
IEEE Canada Achievement Award C.C. Gotlieb Computer Medal, 2013;
Distinguished Scientist Award, 2010;
Fellow of IEEE, 2009.

STATEMENT

ACM SIGMM is an amazing group of researchers, scientists and practitioners having global reach and technical depth and breadth. ACM SIGMM shall continue to be the leading community in advancing multimedia research and technology for humanity. As ACM SIGMM chair, I will build upon the excellent results our SIGMM group has achieved so far, and I will put in place a strategic

plan within the first 100 days, discuss it with the SIGMM community and implement it by aligning priorities, resource allocation, and financial investment. SIGMM must continue to develop its strategy to encourage growth in new regions while providing clear benefits to existing members. This requires a better understanding of diverse cultural, educational, and professional contexts and better connectivity with local communities. My short-term focus is on increasing engagement, growth and visibility by enhancing the connection between the research community and the relevant industries, and by remaining a leader in scientific and technical development (addressing grand challenges).

I am committed to strengthening the leadership role of ACM SIGMM in the growing field of next-generation technologies and applications around multimedia.

Candidate for Vice-Chair

Nicu Sebe
University of Trento, Italy

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Leiden, 2001, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Dean, Computer Science Department, University of Trento, Italy, 2015 – Present
Full Professor, Computer Science Department, University of Trento, Italy, 2015 – Present;
Dean of Doctoral School, Computer Science Department, University of Trento, Italy,
2012 – 2015.

Professional Interest:

Multimedia; Computer Vision; Human Behavior Understanding.

ACM Activities:

Director of Conferences, SIGMM, 2012 – Present.

Awards Received:

Fellow, IAPR, 2012;
Senior Member, ACM, 2010;
Senior Member, IEEE, 2010.

STATEMENT

Given the active role I've had in SIGMM these past years, starting with organizing ACM Multimedia as program chair (2007, 2011) and General Chair (2013), CIVR and MIR (several times in the past) and ICMR (General Chair 2017) and then as the Director of Conferences, I believe I know the community very well. In addition, I have been involved in organizing several large IEEE conferences (ECCV, ICCV) which has allowed me to garner ideas from others that can be borrowed to improve the management of SIGMM. Considering that I regard SIGMM as the main venue of my research activity (e.g., my group is also very active in publishing in the SIGMM conferences), it is my desire to continue to serve the community at least as good as I have done in the past few years.

Candidate for Vice-Chair

Mohamed Hefeeda
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Purdue University, 2004, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Professor, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada, 2014 – Present;
Associate Professor, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada, 2010 – 2014;
Assistant Professor, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada, 2004 – 2010.

Professional Interest:

Multimedia Systems; Mobile Computing; Multimedia Networking; 3D and Immersive Video.

ACM Activities:

Associate Editor, ACM TOMM Journal, 2010 – Present;
Co-Chair, Systems Track, ACM Multimedia 2013;
Program Chair, ACM NOSSDAV 2010;
Editor, History Preservation Section, SIGMM Web Magazine, 2010 – Present.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Key Member of the IEEE Interest Group (IG) on Media Streaming , IEEE, 2010 – 2011;
Senior Member, IEEE, 2009 – Present.

Awards Received:

Best Paper, ACM MMSys '15, 2015;
Best Associate Editor, ACM TOMM Journal, 2014;
NSERC DAS Award (prestigious Canadian grant award), 2011;
Best Demo Award, ACM MM '08, 2008.

STATEMENT

It is my pleasure and honor to have been asked to run for the SIGMM Vice-Chair Position. I have been an active member of ACM and SIGMM for more than ten years. I have served the community in various roles. Examples of my service include:

- (i) creating and maintaining the History Preservation section of the SIGMM Web Magazine since 2010, which archives all previous events of SIGMM,

- (ii) serving as an Associate Editor of the ACM TOMM journal since 2010, and was named the best associate editor for 2014, and
- (iii) serving on or co-chairing several committees of main SIGMM conferences and workshops, including co-chair of the systems and middleware track of ACM MM'13, program chair of NOSSDAV'10, publicity co-chair for MMSys'16 and '17, and program co-chair of MoVid'12.

I am hoping to get the opportunity to serve the SIGMM community as a Vice Chair to contribute to its continued success and growth by enhancing its visibility within ACM, promoting SIGMM internationally, attracting new members and supporting current ones, and further enhancing the quality and organization of main SIGMM events and publication venues.

Candidate for Director of Conferences

Gerald Friedland
University of California Berkeley, CA, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Freie Universitaet Berlin, 2006, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Adjunct Assistant Professor, EECS Department, University of California Berkeley, CA,
2016 – Present;

Principal Data Scientist, Audio and Multimedia, Lawrence Livermore National Lab., Livermore, CA,
2016 – Present;

Director, Audio and Multimedia Lab, International Computer Science Institute, Berkeley, CA,
2012 – 2017.

Professional Interest:

Video Retrieval; Audio Analysis; Privacy.

ACM Activities:

Area Chair, ACM Multimedia Conference, 2016 – Present;

Associate Editor, ACM TOMM, 2013 – 2017;

Brave New Topic Chair, ACM ICMR, 2016.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Associate Editor, IEEE Multimedia Magazine, 2014 – Present;

Program Chair, IEEE International Conference on Multimedia and Expo, 2012.

Awards Received:

Winner ACM Multimedia Grand Challenge, 2015;

Associate Editor of the Year, ACM TOMM, 2011;

Winner, ACM Multimedia Grand Challenge, 2009;

IEEE CS Distinguished Service Award, 2007.

STATEMENT

Humans are the best functioning example of multimedia communication and computing -- that is, we understand information and experiences through the unified perspective offered by our five senses. For decades, SIGMM has represented research on techniques to imitate this innate human understanding with computers. The multimedia conferences have stood as a unique pillar presenting emerging methods in computing from a perspective in which each medium -- e.g.

images, text, audio -- is a strong component of the complete, integrated exchange of information. While it has been a challenge in the community to preserve a certain delicate balance of diversity, I believe this intellectual angle will be of continuing importance. The multimedia community has a tradition of being able to handle big data, long before this was a general topic. It has been a pioneer in large scale evaluations and dataset creation. Moreover, multimedia is uniquely angled towards novel applications and cutting edge industrial challenges.

As a candidate for director of conferences, I see the mission focus of the SIGMM conferences as continuing to disseminate research and educate students but also to openly embrace related new intellectual angles from both industry as well as academia, such as data science.

Candidate for Director of Conferences

Qi Tian
University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), TX, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), 2002, Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Professional Experience:

Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), TX, 2013 – Present;
Associate Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), TX, 2008 – 2012;
Lead Researcher, Microsoft Research Asia (MSRA), Beijing, China, 2008 – 2009.

Professional Interest:

Multimedia Information Retrieval; Multimedia Content Analysis; Deep Learning; Computer Vision; Pattern Recognition.

ACM Activities:

General Chair, ACM Multimedia, 2015;
ACM ICMR Steering Committee Member, SIGMM, 2009 – 2014;
SIGMM Conference Committee Member, SIGMM, 2009 – 2012;
Program Coordinator, ACM Multimedia, 2009.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

TC Secretary, IEEE CASS-VSPC-TC, 2016 – 2018;
Associate Editor, IEEE Transactions on Multimedia, 2014 – 2018;
Associate Editor, IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology, 2010 – 2015.

Awards Received:

IEEE Fellow, 2016;
ACM ICMR Best Paper Award, 2015;
ACM ICIMCS Best Paper Award, 2012;
ACM Certificate of Recognition For Service and Contributions to ACM as Program Chair of Multimedia 2009.

STATEMENT

Having served on the editorial boards of several prestigious journals including IEEE TMM and TCSVT and organized many internationally renowned conferences such as ACM Multimedia,

I have amassed much experience in working seamlessly together with colleagues from academia, industry, and government agencies, as well as a deep understanding of the research trends in Multimedia. Extensive service at the department level, college level and university level also lends me a wealth of management skills to lead and coordinate concerted initiatives and implementations with independent university faculty members. Working at the University of Texas at San Antonio for 14 and half years as well as working at Microsoft Research Asia for one year created a hub for me to network with researchers all over the world. Continuing to be actively involved in the research front keeps me aware of and advancing the state-of-the-arts in the multimedia fields.

If elected as the SIGMM conference director, I will push stronger collaboration between SIGMM major conferences such as ACM Multimedia with the Chinese Computing Federation (CCF) to:

- 1) enlarge SIGMM's membership base in China, and
- 2) establish joint sponsorship between SIGMM and CCF to attract more paper submissions especially from mainland China.