

SIGCAS Review 2014: Overview

- Purpose of SIGCAS:
To provide a societal impact angle to technical issues.
Social, Legal and Ethical Aspects of Computing/IT
- “Conscience of the ACM” - Tavani
- Activities: Computers and Society Newsletter
In Cooperation with Multiple Conferences
Regular Event at SIGCSE (linked to COPE)
Input to IEEE/ACM Curriculum Development
- Awards: Making a Difference Award (external)
Outstanding Service Award (internal)

SIGCAS Review 2014: Positive Member Benefits

Proactive contact with relevant conference committees has expanded our In Cooperation efforts substantially:

- IEEE ISTAS 2013 and IEEE Ethics 2014 (incl. ISTAS)
- CEPE 2014; Ethicomp 2014 (co-located events)
SIGCAS is a sponsor of a speaker at the joint day on Women in Computing (paperwork pending)
- Broad In Cooperation status with technical conferences which include social implications of their remit.
- Our regular SIGCSE pre-event is well-attended by members and produces strong positive feedback.

SIGCAS 2014 Review: Problem/Response 1

- Problem:
Despite reasonable retention percentages of longer term members, our membership is declining by about 10% per year
- Response: We need to recruit more new members.
We need to improve our online presence
(updated Web Site; LinkedIn sub-group of ACM members group; Facebook group)
Promote membership at In Coop conferences
(fliers, sponsored speakers/events)
Other suggestions?

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Member Benefits

- Problem: We are very behind with Newsletter Publication
- 2009-2010: No Editor (Chair acting)
- 2012: Recruited Well-known Figure
- 2013: Editor's new job left too little time
- 2014: Backlog issue with editor (ready for typesetting)
- Response: We have recruited two new assistant editors, are in the process of removing the current editor (after getting the delayed issue papers), and issuing targetted calls for papers.

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Finances and Membership

- Small membership gives small revenue stream – we live within it but it limits our activities
- Many core Information Ethics conferences – links were allowed to drop away in recent years
- Re-build In Cooperation links, move to full co-sponsor links with ISTAS, Ethicomp, CEPE
- Build membership
- Encourage more active membership
PhD students, online activity, member-member interaction and recruitment