



SIGSAM Program Review 2009

**Special Interest Group on
Symbolic and Algebraic Computation**

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What is SIGSAM?

ACM Special Interest Group on Symbolic and Algebraic Manipulation.

- SIGSAM is the largest international organization supporting and promoting research in computer algebra and symbolic computation and its applications. Since 1966!

SIGSAM activities

- Publishes ACM Communications in Computer Algebra since 1965
- Sponsors conferences (such as ISSAC)
- Sponsors, funds, and nominates for awards
- Informs members on symbolic computation activities and events
- New website in 2008 brings this all together
 - Calendars, newsfeeds, conference archives, ...

People

- Executive committee (8), Advisory Board (10), Editorial board (7), Web Administrators (2), Volunteers

Conferences

ISSAC: The International Symposium on Symbolic and Algebraic Computation is the premier annual computer algebra conference (since 1988)

- ISSAC 2009, KIAS, Seoul, Korea (Joint ACM Sponsorship)
- ISSAC 2008 RISC, Linz, Austria (in Cooperation with ACM *)
- Before that: Waterloo, Genoa, Beijing, Santander, ...
- ISSAC 2010 will be in Munich, Germany

ISSAC is managed by a Steering Committee of six members (3 institutional members, including SIGSAM + 3 elected at large)

In discussions to include SIGSAM membership with (non-member) registration fee.

Other conferences with SIGSAM involvement

- SIGSAM sponsors other conferences in-cooperation with ACM: ECCAD, SNC, MICA, PASCO (5 conferences in 2008).

ACM Communications in Computer Algebra

The ACM Communications on Computer Algebra has been published quarterly since 1965 (under different names)

CCA includes reviewed technical articles, calls for papers, surveys, announcements, new Ph.D. abstracts, job postings, etc.

- **CCA is now up-to-date and publish 4 issues per year in their listed month of issue.**
- Switched to printing only 2 double-issues per year, 4 issues electronically. This has been very cost-effective.
- September/December printed issues had over 100 pages.
- December 2008 issue included ISSAC 2008 proceedings on DVD

SIGSAM also holds a seat on the TOMS editorial board and encourages submissions of symbolic computation papers to TOMS.

Awards

Richard D. Jenks Memorial Prize for Excellence in Software Engineering applied to Computer Algebra

- Awarded every two years (at ISSAC), after a call for formal nominations and letters of support.
- From an endowment of \$27285 (March 2009)
- 2008 winner was The GAP Team.

ISSAC Prizes

- Distinguished Paper Prize and Student Contribution Prizes
- From an endowment of \$50662 (March 2009)

Nominations

- SIGSAM successfully nominated Bruno Buchberger for the 2007 Kanellakis Prize. Nominations for ACM Fellows.

SIGSAM Financial Status

SIG Fund balance:

- June 2008: \$40135
- June 2007: \$18474
- June 2006: \$4449
- June 2005: \$8887

ISSAC prize endowment: \$50662 (March 2009)

Jenks prize endowment: \$27285 (March 2009)

Conference revenue (ISSAC)

- ISSAC 2008: \$2214 (transferred from organizers)
- ISSAC 2007: \$6609
- ISSAC 2006: \$1534
- ISSAC 2005: -\$3894