

USACM Update ACM SGB Meeting

Jeanna Matthews
October 1 2013



*ACM US Public
Policy Council*

Mission

The U.S. Public Policy Council of ACM (USACM) is the focal point for ACM's interaction with U.S. government organizations, the computing community, and the U.S. public in all matters of U.S. public policy related to information technology and computing, except issues in science and math education relevant to computing and computer science, which is the responsibility of the Educational Policy Committee (EPC).

The USACM is authorized to take official policy positions. These positions reflect the position of the USACM and not necessarily that of ACM. Policy positions of USACM are decided by a 2/3 majority vote of the USACM Executive Committee.



Core Principles

- Educate the public, policy makers, and the community about public policy issues that affect the development of technology or where technology influences policy issues to better inform policy decisions.
- Be a non-partisan, honest broker of scientific and technical expertise, free from the influence of product vendors or others with vested interests, underpinned by scientific evidence, for improving the field of computing or the responsible use of technology in society

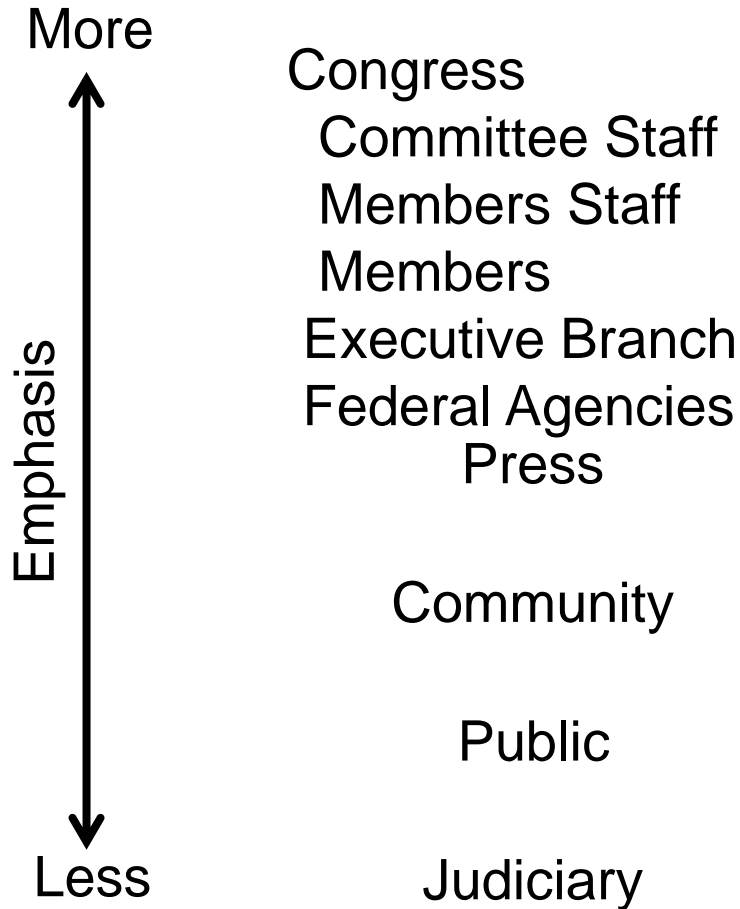


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Examples of Activities

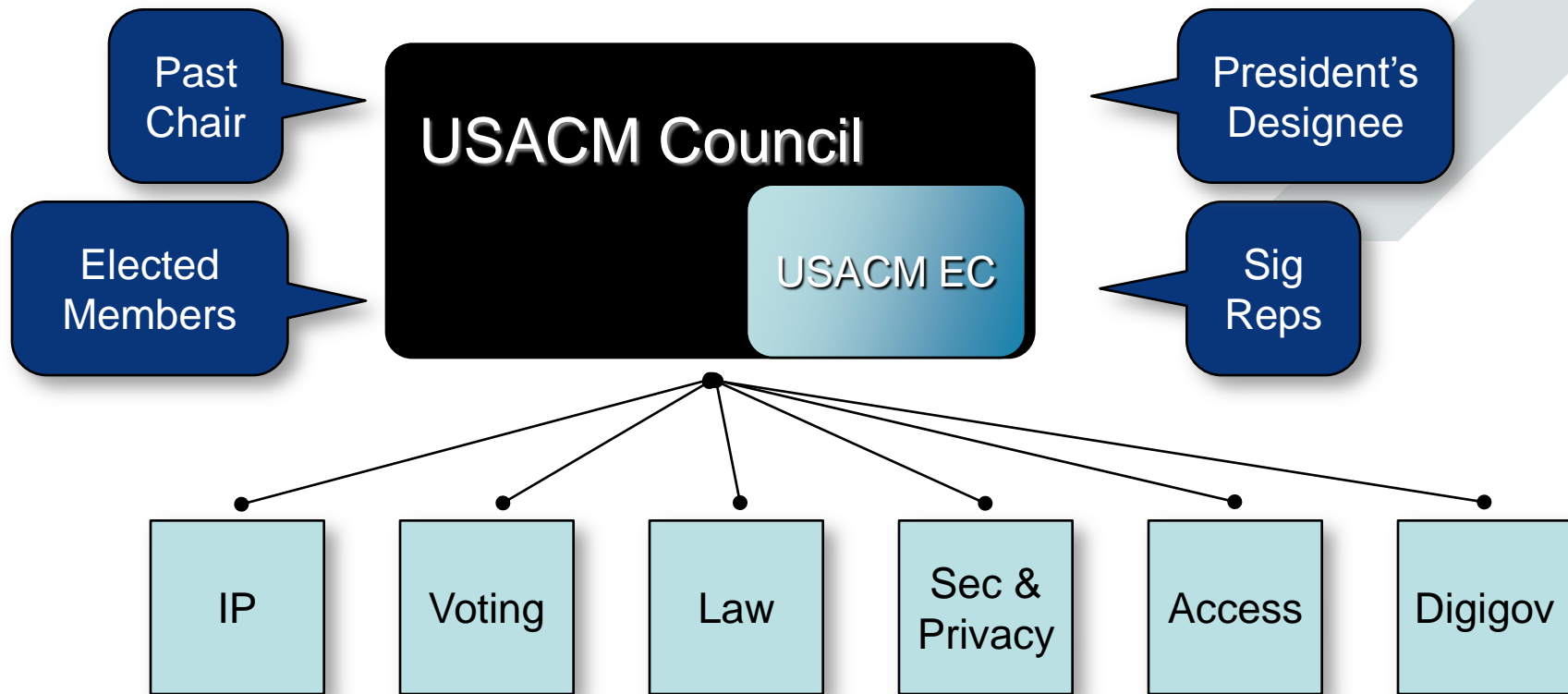
- Respond to calls for public comment on proposed legislation
- Congressional testimony
- Congressional briefings and visits
- Interaction with federal agencies including DHS, NSF, NIST, FTC, FCC and others
- Interact/collaborate with other groups – Educause, AAAS, etc.
- Track emerging trends in legislation, initiatives, funding, etc.

Our Audiences



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Organization



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- Targeted responses/engagements
- Tracking emerging trends in legislation
- Assemble and vet a set of principles in each area as background for response to any specific issue

USACM Council/EC

Eugene Spafford (USACM Chair)

- Ed Felten(USACM Vice-Chair)
- Stuart Shapiro (USACM Vice-Chair)
- Charles Brownstein (Former USACM Chair)
- Travis Breaux (Privacy and Security Committee Co-Chair)
- Chris Bronk (At Large, Term Expires 12/31/13)
- Jean Camp (At Large, Term Expires 12/31/13)
- Vint Cerf (ACM President), ex officio
- Jeremy Epstein (Voting Committee Chair)
- Andrew Grosso (Law Committee Chair)
- Jim Hendler (Digital Government Committee Chair)
- Harry Hochheiser (Accessibility Committee Chair)
- Paul Hyland (Intellectual Property Committee Chair)
- Jeanna Matthews (SIG Representative)
- Andy Oram (At Large, Term Expires 12/31/13)
- Barbara Owens (SIG Representative)
- Alan Rea (Privacy and Security Committee Co-Chair)
- David Robinson Oram (At Large, Term Expires 12/31/14)
- Bobby Schnabel (Chair, ACM Education Policy Committee), ex officio
- Barbara Simons (Former USACM Chair)
- Ollie Smoot (At Large, Term Expires 12/31/14)
- John White (ACM CEO), ex officio
- Cameron Wilson (ACM Director of Public Policy), ex officio
- Alec Yasinsac (At Large, Term Expires 12/31/14)



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Some examples of US-ACM 2013

- **Reform of Electronic Communications Privacy Act** USACM signed on to letters from technology interest groups to encourage revising federal law on electronic communications access for law enforcement. The letters support treating all forms of electronic communication equally in terms of warrant and subpoena requirements.
- **Federal Cybersecurity Activity** Released a statement in connection with the President's Executive Order. Outreach to Congress and comments on the Federal Cybersecurity Research and Development Strategic Plan.
- **Participation in Identity Ecosystems Steering Group (IDESG)** USACM volunteers helped with the work of the IDESG, which is responsible for establishing the support structure to implement the National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace.
- **Continuity of E-Government Letter** sent to the federal Chief Information Officer and other agency CIOs on the need to plan for providing electronic government information and services in times of natural disaster or similar distresses on infrastructure.

Some examples of US-ACM 2012

- Identify technical risks in proposed systems for electronic voting/internet voting, employment eligibility tracking (e.g. E-Verify), identification systems (e.g. REAL ID, NSTIC), etc.
- Comment on how proposed legislation would impact existing Internet infrastructure (e.g. impact of SOPA/PIPA on DNS and DNSSEC)
- Comments on Menlo Report on extending ethical guidelines for research involving human subjects to computing and information security research
- Comments on intellectual property legislation/treaties
- Application of Americans with Disabilities Act to web
- Standards for government websites



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Ways to Get Involved

- Learning more
 - <http://usacm.acm.org/>
 - USACM's Tech Policy Blog: <http://techpolicy.acm.org/blog/>
 - ACM Washington Update newsletter and podcast
 - SIG reps: Jeanna Matthews (jnm@clarkson.edu) and Barbara Owens (owensb@southwestern.edu)
- Report issues and help track emerging trends
 - What should we be commenting on that we are not
- Connect people in your SIG with expertise to offer on specific issues
- Join USACM

