Wow! Successful SIGAPP Flagship Conference, SAC

SIGAPP fund balance has increased by an average of 12% each of the last 4 years, due in large part to the success of SAC

- **How do we do it?**
    - Call for hosting proposal. Hosts compete to hold SAC locally
    - SIGAPP Chair and SAC Treasure do a site visit 6 to 8 months prior to the event
    - Rely on local committee members to get best deals and prices, and student
- **How do we keep SAC registration fee low?**
    - It is kept under $500 and includes coffee breaks, lunches, welcome reception, and banquet.
    - Local host provides facilities, AV, local gift, and local entertainment.
    - Local host solicits support from the local industry and government.
    - Local host secures student volunteers for manpower to operate SAC.
- **What else do we do?**
    - Students have very low rate.
    - Student authors are supported by SIGAPP travel grants.
    - Attendees from underdeveloped countries are supported by SIGAPP travel grants.
    - Keep acceptance rate round 25% - quality papers and DL download revenues
    - Run a Posters Program by invitation.
    - Just started a Student Research Competition (SRC) program.
    - Offer all attendees One-year free SIGAPP membership, paid by SAC funds.

Membership Retention Rate is Low

Membership retention rate is still low, 34.59%

What are current problems?

- Hard to improve the retention rates by paid membership
- Membership retention rate is not consistent for each year
- Most of retention is because of SAC's free membership

What would be Possible retention rate Improvement?

- Lower membership (student $8 to $5, regular member $15 to $10)
- Increase awareness of Applied Computing research
- Collaborate with other SIGs
- Increase member benefits - Suggestions are welcomed

Any idea?