

# ACM History Committee Report

ACM SIG Governing Board  
Brent Hailpern  
26 October 2009



# Agenda

- Who?
- History Wiki
- Other new sites
- Miscellaneous

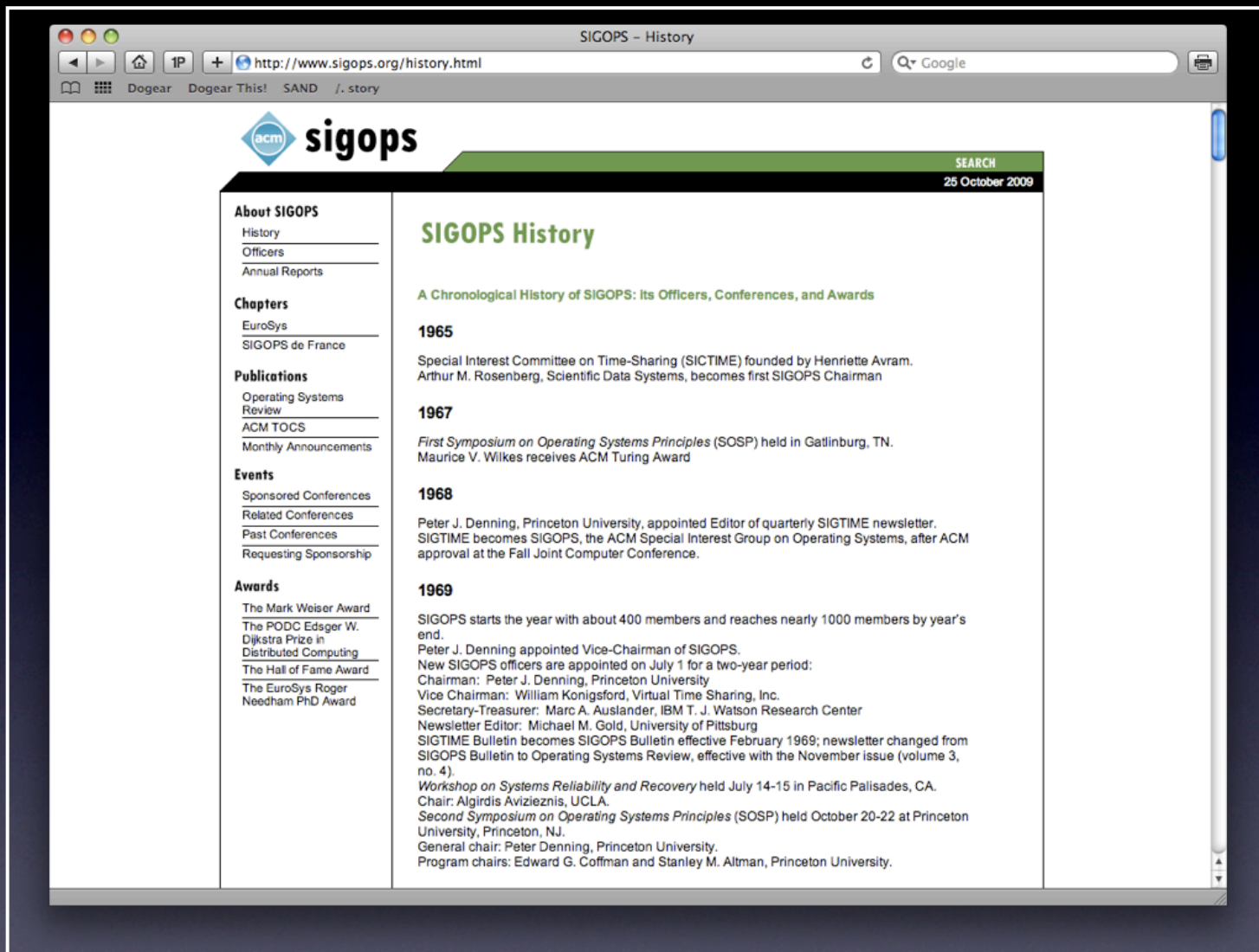
# Purpose

- to foster preservation and interpretation of the history of the ACM and its role in the development of computing
- [history.acm.org](http://history.acm.org)
- [history.acm.org/content.php?do=sighistory](http://history.acm.org/content.php?do=sighistory)

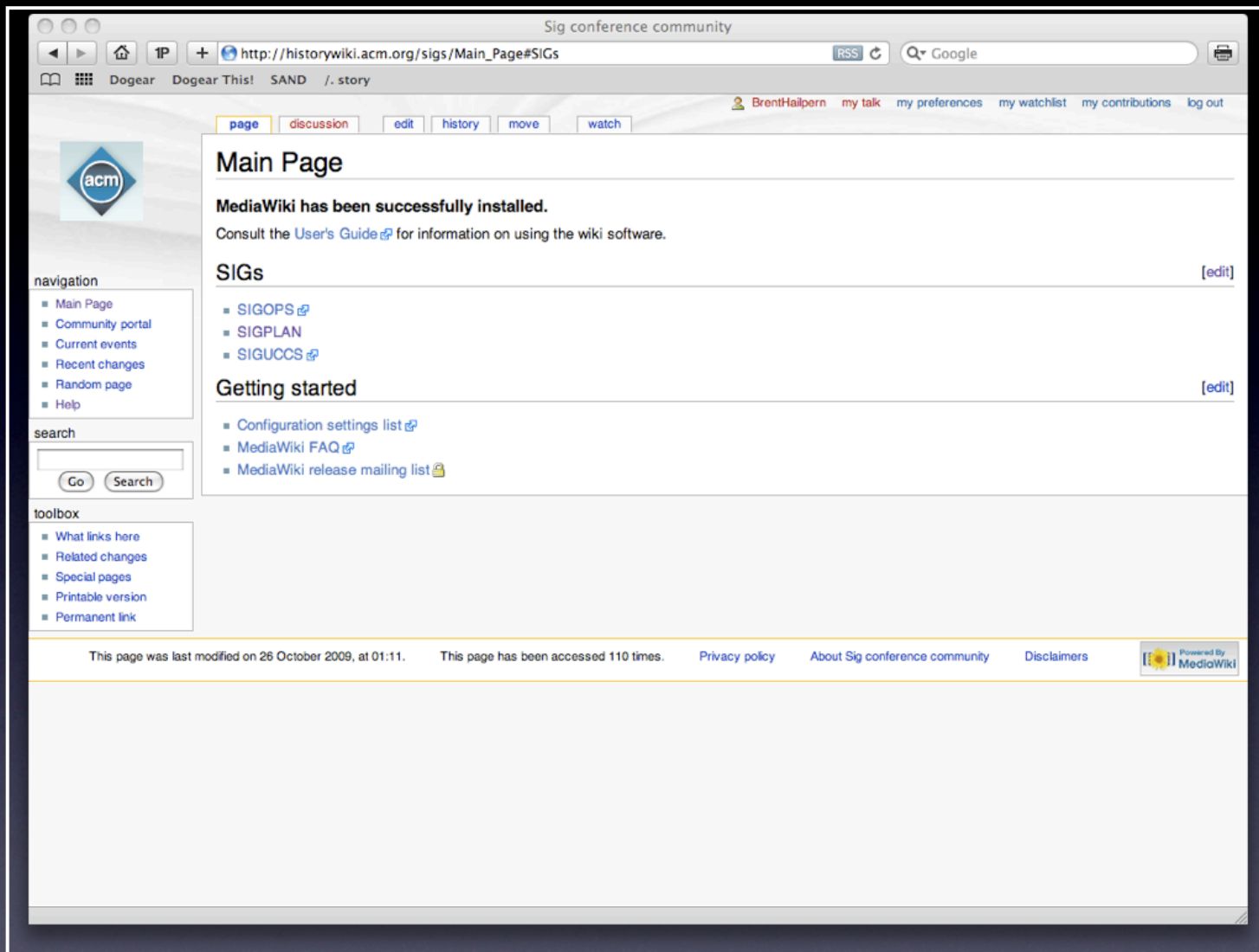
# The Committee

- Mary Hall (chair)
- Martin Campbell-Kelly
- Tom Misa
- Patricia Ryan
- Len Shustek
- Richard Snodgrass
- David S. Wise
- Carol Hutchins (pubs)
- Brent T Hailpern (sgb)
- Monique Chang
- Rosemary McGuinness
- Matt Cleveland (web)

# SIG History Wiki



<http://www.sigops.org/history.html>



[http://historywiki.acm.org/sigs/Main\\_Page](http://historywiki.acm.org/sigs/Main_Page)

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://historywiki.acm.org/sigs/SIGPLAN>. The page title is "SIGPLAN - Sig conference community". The browser's address bar shows the URL and search engines like Google. The page content includes a navigation menu on the left with links like "Main Page", "Community portal", and "Current events". The main content area features a "Contents" table of contents with links to sections: "1 A Chronology of SIGPLAN: its Officers, Conferences, Awards, and more", "2 2000s", "3 1990s", "4 1980s", "5 1970s", and "6 1960s". Below the table of contents, the page displays the heading "A Chronology of SIGPLAN: its Officers, Conferences, Awards, and more" with an [edit] link. The "2000s" section is expanded, showing the "2009" section with details about the Executive Committee (2009-2012), including the Chair (Philip Wadler), Vice Chair (Graham Hutton), Secretary (Eliot Moss), Treasurer (Cristina Cifuentes), Members at Large (Andrew P. Black, Cristina Nicole Cifuentes, Matthew Flatt, Dan Grossman, Tony (Antony) Hosking, Erez Petrank, Benjamin Zorn), and Past Chair (Kathleen Fisher). It also mentions that beginning in 2009, Executive Committee terms became 3 years. Two conferences are listed: PLDI 2009 - SIGPLAN Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation: Dublin, Ireland, with Conference Chair Michael Hind and Program Chair Amer Diwan; and OOPSLA 2009 - Conference on Object-Oriented Programming, Systems, Languages & Applications: Orlando, Florida, USA, with Conference Chair Shail Arora and Program Chair Gary T. Leavens. The "2008" section is partially visible, mentioning the Programming Languages Achievement Award: Barbara Liskov.

<http://historywiki.acm.org/sigs/SIGPLAN>



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## History of SIGUCCS

A Brief History of SIGUCCS by Jack Esbin

### I. The SIG Movement within ACM

When ACM was founded in 1947, almost all of its members were active in direct computing fields, many of which were outgrowths of military and other war-related and government-sponsored efforts during World War II. In fact, that explains why the full legal name of the organization is “The Association for Computing Machinery”, a name which is seldom used today except for formal documents. At that time, anyone who was active in computing actually did work on computing machinery, since there were no computer operators, systems engineers, customer engineers, and the like.

As ACM’s membership began to grow, many of the new members came from large universities and research laboratories in industry, and new academic programs began to take root in higher education, often as a sideline in such disciplines as Mathematics and Physics. Accordingly, the areas of interest of ACM’s members became more diverse, and it became difficult to keep up with developments in all of these areas. Recognizing this trend, some members of ACM proposed that sub-units be created within ACM, pursuing those specialized, narrower interests. From this came what are known today as Special Interest Groups, or SIGs.

### II. The Founding of SIGUCC(S)

While several SIGs were founded in 1961, SIGUCC (as it was known then) was not founded until 1963. The name “SIGUCC” stood for “Special Interest Group of University Computing Centers”, because small institutions had

“After joining SIGUCCS in 1967, I soon met people who were not only nationally known in the field (in those days, some were pioneers in the profession), but who were friendly and more than willing to share both ideas and information they had gathered, not to mention discussing problems of mutual concern. Over the years I personally grew in knowledge and experience, and I attribute much of that to the sound advice and mentoring I received from those SIGUCCS contacts.

Today, exactly the same kind of mentoring and support is available through SIGUCCS. In fact, the general topics discussed have changed surprisingly little, even though the technology

<http://www.siguccs.org/about/history.html>

# SIG History Wiki

- SIGSOFT Liason - Tao Xie
- Contact Adam Greenberg for accounts:  
[greenberg@hq.acm.org](mailto:greenberg@hq.acm.org)

# Other History Sites

- TODS
- Supercomputing

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://tods.acm.org/History.html>. The page title is "ACM Transactions on Database Systems On-line - History of ACM Transactions on Database Systems". The main content area features the ACM logo and the title "History of ACM Transactions on Database Systems". Below the title, a paragraph states: "This page documents the history of ACM Transactions on Database Systems for future generations." The page is organized into several sections: "Articles" with a link to "December 1980, TODS - The First Three Years (1976-1978)"; "Position Statements" with three entries dated July 27, 2007, June 7, 2004, and January 29, 2001; "Editorials" with a link to "Editorials"; "People" with four links related to editorial boards and timelines; and "Web Site". A left sidebar contains a navigation menu with links to Home, Articles (Current, Upcoming, Past), Charter, Editorial Board, Author info, Referee info, Editorials, Subscribe, Policies, History (highlighted), and Editors only.

<http://tods.acm.org/History.html>

<https://committee.supercomputing.org/20th-anniversary/>

[Dogear](#) [Dogear This!](#) [SAND](#) [/. story](#)

***SC Meeting History***

[SC General Chairs](#)

[Venues and Logos](#)

[SC98 10th Anniversary Displays and Information Panels](#)

[SCiNet History](#)

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***Pre-SC08 Planning***

[History Area Floor Plans](#)

[Booth Signage](#)

[Gordon Bell Prize Poster Art](#)

[SC08 20th Anniversary Information Panel Art](#)

**SC 2008  
20TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECT  
DOCUMENTARY IMAGES**



**Project Staff**

N. Wilkins-Diehr	J. D'Aoust
K. Walsh	J. Cobb
D. Turner	B. Clayton
P. Teller	C. Bruett
J. McGraw	B. Borchers
M. LeBlanc	B. Barney
T. DeBoni	

**Thanks to Our Supporters**

***SC08: The Meeting***

[History Area Fixtures and Furnishings](#)

[Past General Chairs and Their Displays](#)

[20 Year Exhibitors](#)

[20 Year Attendees](#)

[Gordon Bell Prize Poster Photos](#)

[Information Panels and Display Cases](#)

[Display Cases and Artifacts](#)

<https://committee.supercomputing.org/20th-anniversary/>

# ACM History Fellowships

- Irina Nikiforova (PhD Student - Georgia Tech's School of History, Technology and Society): ACM, Turing Prize Scientists, and their Web of Affiliations
- Bernard Geoghegan: (PhD Student - Northwestern University and Bauhaus University - Weimar): Staging the ACM Chess Championships

# ACM History Fellowships

- Each fellow will receive \$2500 to support their project, which can be used for travel or other research expenses
- See [http://history.acm.org/public/public\\_documents/acm\\_history\\_fellowship.php](http://history.acm.org/public/public_documents/acm_history_fellowship.php)

# Miscellaneous

- Babbage Institute interested in early SIG documents
- Arvid Nelsen: [nels0307@umn.edu](mailto:nels0307@umn.edu)
- Need a venue for preserving “historic” early unpublished manuscripts - (e.g. Traits)



# Questions

- Brent Hailpern - [bth@us.ibm.com](mailto:bth@us.ibm.com)