

Candidate for Executive Committee

Wolfgang Banzhaf

Memorial University, Department of Computer Science, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Dr.rer.nat. (Ph.D), University of Karlsruhe, Germany, 1985, Theoretical Physics.

Professional Experience:

Professor and Head of Department, Department of Computer Science, Memorial University, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, 2003 – Present;

Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Dortmund, Dortmund, Germany, 1993 – 2003;

Senior Researcher, Mitsubishi Electric Research Labs, Inc., Cambridge, MA, USA, 1992 – 1993.

Professional Interest:

Evolutionary Computation; Artificial Life; Complex Adaptive Systems; Bio-inspired Computing; Bioinformatics.

ACM Activities:

Member, Executive Board, SIGEVO, 2005 – 2009;

Treasurer, SIGEVO, 2006 – 2009.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Member Executive, ISGEC, 2000 – 2004.

Awards Received:

EvoStar Award for Outstanding Achievements in EC in Europe, 2007; ISGEC, elected Senior Fellow, 2003.

STATEMENT

It is my firm belief that the strength of an organization comes from its ability to constantly adapt and innovate. Every organization, however, has built-in stabilizing tendencies to become closed and, over time, stale. Based on this analysis I try to argue for openness of SIGEVO, both for welcoming new members as well as for embracing new research topics. Achieving gender balance is very high on my list of priorities.

In general, I am very optimistic about SIGEVO. We are a young and energetic organization within ACM. Our area is thriving and will continue to ride the technology wave for many

years to come. Successes will just continue to pile up, and the relevance of our field for society is bound to grow. Thus we don't have to hide, and indeed can become more proactive with the public.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Juergen Branke
University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Habilitation, University of Karlsruhe, Germany, 2006, Nature-inspired Design and Optimization of Complex Systems.

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK, 2009 – Present;
Assistant Professor (akad. Rat), University of Karlsruhe, Karlsruhe, Germany, 2001 – 2008;
Scientist, Icosystem Inc., Paris, France, 2001 – 2001.

Professional Interest:

Nature-inspired optimization; Optimization in the presence of uncertainty; Multiobjective optimization; Simulation-based optimization; Operations management.

ACM Activities:

GECCO GA track co-chair, 2007;
GECCO reviewer, 1999 – Present.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Member, IEEE Computer Society, 1999 – Present;
Council of authors, International Society of Genetic and Evolutionary Computation, 2000 – 2004.

Awards Received:

Carl-Adam-Petri Research Award, University of Karlsruhe, 2005; Best paper award for GECCO GA track, 2003.

STATEMENT

Genetic and evolutionary computation has been very successful in recent years, and is now a widely used technique in an amazing variety of applications. The number of publications in the field is exploding. While this is exciting, as the field is maturing, there is also a need to develop new qualities.

As member of the SIGEVO executive board, I would work towards the following goals:

- More analysis: Many papers simply propose yet another variant of the basic algorithm.
- While diversity and new ideas are very important, the focus should shift to proper analysis, either theoretically or via statistically sound experiments. SIGEVO should foster such studies, e.g., by defining and propagating appropriate techniques and benchmarks.
- More collaboration with other fields: Although we are solving similar problems as, e.g., the operations research and artificial intelligence communities, the exchange of ideas with these communities could be increased, e.g., by encouraging special sessions of GEC at typical conferences of other communities. (A good example where this succeeded is the collaboration between EMO and "classical" multiobjective optimization).
- Closer (and more visible) collaboration with industry: For the widespread recognition of GEC, we should particularly welcome the publication of successful industrial applications.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Martin V. Butz
University of Würzburg, Germany

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, 2004, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Research Group Leader (Assistant Professor equivalent), University of Würzburg, Germany, 2007 – Present;

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Missouri, St. Louis, MO, USA, 2005 – 2005;

EU Project Group Leader, University of Würzburg, Germany, 2004 – 2007.

Professional Interest:

Learning Classifier Systems; Artificial Life; Neuroevolution; Cognitive Systems; Neuroscience.

STATEMENT

Allow me to say first of all that I am very honored to be nominated for the Executive Committee of SIGEVO. Seeing my cognitive and artificial intelligence (and particularly machine learning) oriented background and my current cognitive systems perspective, I will try to serve not only as a helpful member but also intend (1) to foster the integration of evolutionary computation techniques into the general machine learning field and (2) to establish evolutionary computation mechanisms as an applicable alternative in machine control tasks and particularly in tasks that require autonomous, flexible, and adaptive control capabilities.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Mike Cattolico
Tiger Mountain Scientific, Kirkland, WA USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

B.S., Moravian College, 1984, Biology.

Professional Experience:

President, Tiger Mountain Scientific, Kirkland, WA, 1994 – Present;
Software Engineer, Digital Equipment Corporation, NJ and WA, 1986 – 1994;
Consultant, AGS Computers, NJ, 1984 – 1986.

Professional Interest:

Genetic Programming; Computer Networking; Computer Security; Wireless Communications; Financial Computing.

ACM Activities:

General Chair, GECCO Seattle, SIGEVO, 2006;
Local Chair, GECCO Seattle, SIGEVO, 2004.

STATEMENT

I've been associated with the GECCO series since its inception and with the GP conference series from its start, a total of 12 years. I have been a member of the ACM for the past 28 years.

I've split my interests in SIGEVO between the Students and gathering support from Industry at large. Through my company, Tiger Mountain Scientific, I've been able to offer support for the GECCO Student Travel Grants for the past 6 years, and for FOGA's first travel grants this year. I hope to continue this work with Encourage CompSci, a new not-for-profit corporation. For the first 5 years of GECCO, I served as panel member for the Graduate Student Workshop.

I've had the pleasure of working with the SIGEVO Board as GECCO local and conference chairs. In 2008, I accepted an appointed position with the SIGEVO Board as a business liaison.

As a board member, I'd offer my experience in budgeting and business planning. I would like to see SIGEVO, through its conferences, provide "The platform for social interaction" in

this area of computer science, thereby expanding the networking opportunities with social events added to the conferences.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Kenneth De Jong
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1975, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Professor, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, 1984 – 2009;
Professor, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 1975 – 1984.

Professional Interest:

Evolutionary Computation; Machine Learning; Artificial Intelligence.

ACM Activities:

Member, Executive Board, SIGEVO, 2005 – 2009.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Executive Council Member, ISGEC, 1999 – 2005;
Executive Council Member, ISGA, 1990 – 1999;
Affiliate Member, IEEE, 1990 – 2009.

Awards Received:

IEEE Computational Intelligence Pioneer Award, 2005; Evolutionary Programming Society Lifetime Achievement Award, 2005; ISGEC Senior Fellow, 2002.

STATEMENT

I have enjoyed serving on the SIGEVO Executive Board these past four years, and I am happy to continue that service if re-elected.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Marco Dorigo

Belgian Funds for Scientific Research (FNRS), Université Libre de Bruxelles Brussels, Belgium

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Politecnico di Milano, 1992, Systems and Information Electronic Engineering.

Professional Experience:

Research Director, Belgian Funds for Scientific Research (FNRS), Université Libre de Bruxelles (Brussels, Belgium), 1996 – Present.

Professional Interest:

Swarm Intelligence; Swarm Robotics; Computational Intelligence; Optimization.

ACM Activities:

Member at large, SIGEVO, 2005 – 2008;

Associate Editor for Trans. on Autonomous and Adaptive Systems, 2006 – Present.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Fellow IEEE, IEEE, 2006 – Present.

Awards Received:

Cajastur International Prize for Soft Computing, 2007; Dr A. De Leeuw-Damry-Bourlard Award in Applied Sciences, 2005; Marie Curie Excellence Award, 2003; Italian Prize “Marco Somalvico” for Artificial Intelligence, 1996.

STATEMENT

Continue to serve the evolutionary computation community.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Anna Isabel Esparcia-Alcazar
Instituto Tecnológico de Informatica, Valencia, Spain

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Glasgow, 1998, Genetic programming in digital signal processing.

Professional Experience:

Senior researcher - Group coordinator, Instituto Tecnológico de Informatica, Valencia, Spain, 2002 – Present;

Knowledge engineer, Pivotal Sistemas, Barcelona, Spain, 2001 – 2002;

Associate, Advanced Logistics Group, Barcelona, Spain, 2000 – 2001.

Professional Interest:

Real world applications of Computational Intelligence; Genetic programming; Logistics and transport; Digital signal processing; Learning and evolution.

ACM Activities:

GECCO workshops chair, SIGEVO, 2008 – 2009.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Publicity chair, Evo, 2007 – 2008; Local chair, Evo, 2006 – 2007;

Member, IEEE, 1991 – 2009.

Awards Received:

Best session presentation award at IEEE CEC, 2006; Faculty of Engineering scholarship - University of Glasgow, 1995; Erasmus scholarship, 1993.

STATEMENT

Now that Evolutionary Computation is considered a mature technology (e.g. by the European Commission) I think it is time to see it more widely employed in the "real world". For this purpose I will commit all my effort to disseminate the technology in the industry and business areas, paying special attention to the reasons why its application is not more widely spread, looking for ways to promote industry participation in the more academic conferences and studying the possibility of running industrial fairs.

I will also endeavor to attract more participation from women into SIGEVO's activities, and in our field in general.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Erik David Goodman
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1972, Computer & Communication Science.

Professional Experience:

Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, 1972 – Present;

Vice President, Technology, Red Cedar Technology, East Lansing, MI, 1999 – Present.

Professional Interest:

Genetic algorithms; Genetic programming; Evolutionary engineering design; Black box optimization; Sculptured surface representations.

ACM Activities:

Chair, SIGEVO, 2005 – 2007.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Chair, International Society for Genetic & Evolutionary Computation, 2002 – 2005;

CAD/CAM Technical Committee, AIAA, 1987 – 1990;

Gen. Chair, 1st Conf on Evol Comput & Applications, Moscow, 1996, Internat. Soc. for Genetic Algorithms, 1995 – 1996.

Awards Received:

Senior Fellow, Internat. Soc. for Genetic & Evol. Computation, 2004; Academician, Academy of Engineering Sciences of Ukraine, 2000; Hon. Doctorate, Dneprodzerzhinsk State Technical Univ (Ukraine), 1996; Advisory Professor, Tongji University, East China Normal Univ., 2002.

STATEMENT

After completing term as Chair of SIGEVO in 2007, continuing as a member of the Business Committees for GECCO-2009 and 2010, and as General Co-Chair of SIGEVO's new GEC Summit in Shanghai, June, 2009 – so I seek to remain on EC.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Natalio Krasnogor
University of Nottingham, School of Computer Science, United Kingdom

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of the West of England, 2002, Studies on the Theory and Design Space of Memetic Algorithms.

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor (and Reader since 1st January 2009), School of Computer Science, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, 2007 – Present;
Lecturer (equiv. to Assistant Professor), School of Computer Science, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, 2002 – 2007;
Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Chemistry, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, 2001 – 2002.

Professional Interest:

Evolutionary Computation; Natural Computation; Unconventional Computing Paradigms; Self-Assembly and Self-Organization; Interdisciplinary applications of the above to natural sciences.

ACM Activities:

Member ACM, 2008 – Present.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Co-Chair, IEEE Comp. Intel. Soc.'s Emerg. Tech. Tec Molecular Computation, 2007 – Present;
Member, British Computer Society, 2008 – Present;
Publication officer & executive committee member, The Soc. for the Study of Art. Intel. and Sim. of Behav. (AISB), 2005 – 2007.

Awards Received:

Best Paper Award, GECCO 2008 - Bioinformatics track, 2008;
Best Paper Award, CEC 2007, 2007; Bronze Medal in the The 2007 "HUMIES" awards, GECCO 2007; ~ £1M on research awards from BBSRC, EPSRC & EU, 2009.

STATEMENT

I am a Genetic and Evolutionary Computation active researcher and community “activist”. I coordinated various tracks, workshops, symposiums in which GEC played a crucial role. Community-building activities, including our own discipline-specific journals and indeed ACM-SIGEVO, are essential components of a healthy discipline. I will help promote these activities so as to expand our research and user bases. I believe it is essential to encourage a more fluid exchange of knowledge, ideas, and tools within the EC community. Moreover, I see it as a fundamental challenge the building of bridges into other disciplines (Engineering, Physics, Biology, etc) by exploiting our enormous intellectual capital. Recent advances in biotechnology and biomolecular sciences are transforming our views on the complexity of biological systems, particularly the computations they perform (i.e. how information is processed, transmitted and stored over multiple temporal and spatial scales) in order to survive and adapt in dynamic and sometimes hostile environments. In light of recent discoveries, one cannot but marvel at the power and appeal of Evolution. Indeed, I believe that a golden age for Genetic and Evolutionary Computation is approaching and I hope to have the privilege to serve our community in the years ahead.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Pier Luca Lanzi
Politecnico di Milano, Milano, Italy

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Politecnico di Milano, 1999, Learning Classifier Systems.

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor, Politecnico di Milano, Italy, 2004 – Present:

Assistant Professor, Politecnico di Milano, Italy, 2001 – 2004.

Professional Interest:

Genetics-based Machine Learning; Learning Classifier Systems; Estimation of Distribution Algorithms; Data Mining; Computational Intelligence and Games.

ACM Activities:

Editor of the SIGEVO newsletter, SIGEVO, 2006 – Present.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Associate Editor, Evolutionary Computation Journal, 2007 – Present;

Associate Editor, IEEE Transactions on Computational Intelligence and AI in Games, 2008 – Present.

STATEMENT

It is a great honor for me to be included in the list of candidates for the SIGEVO board. The evolutionary computation community has given me a lot, both professionally and humanly. As a member of the board, I would do my very best to serve you.

We are a legacy of communities that share a common fascination and inspiration with some key mechanisms of Nature. We are different and we cherish our diversities -- to me, this is one of our major strengths.

We are an incredibly rich and lively community, we need to reach out to as many people as possible, and we need to increase our visibility, both to the scientific and to the industrial communities. The GECCO invited talks, the tutorials, the Humies, and the best papers candidates are our most precious jewels: they deserve to be put on display. They should be recorded and we should make them available online. Other communities are ahead of us (www.videolectures.net). We need to close this gap and reach out. This will increase our

workload and put more pressure on our speakers, but I believe our effort will be strongly repaid in the long run.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Sean Luke
George Mason University, Washington, DC USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Maryland, 2000, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Assistant Professor, George Mason University, Washington, DC, 2000 – 2006;
Associate Professor, George Mason University, Washington, DC, 2007 – 2009.

Professional Interest:

Genetic Programming; Coevolution; Massively Parallel Evolutionary Computation;
Multiagent Learning; Multirobotics.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Editorial Board Member, Evolutionary Computation Journal, 2005 – 2009;
Editorial Board Member, Genetic Programming and Evolvable Machines, 2004 – 2009;
Editorial Board Member, IEEE Intelligent Systems, 2005 – 2009.

STATEMENT

I am pleased to be nominated and will gladly serve.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Martin Pelikan
University of Missouri-St. Louis, St. Louis, MO USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2002, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor of Computer Science, University of Missouri-St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, 2008 – 2009;

Assistant Professor of Computer Science, University of Missouri-St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, 2003 – 2008;

Postdoctoral Fellow, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ), Zurich, Switzerland, 2003 – 2003.

Professional Interest:

Evolutionary Computation; Machine Learning; Artificial Intelligence; Stochastic Optimization; Theoretical Computer Science.

ACM Activities:

Member, Editorial Board of SIGEVolution Newsletter, SIGEVO, 2006 – 2009;

Publicity Chair, Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference, SIGEVO, 2008 – 2009;

Track Chair, Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference, SIGEVO, 2005 – 2008;

General Chair of GECCO-2010, SIGEVO, 2008 – 2010.

STATEMENT

I have been an active member of ACM SIGEVO and ISGEC (predecessor of SIGEVO) since these groups were founded and contributed to these groups mostly as a GECCO organizer and a member of the editorial board of the SIGEVolution newsletter. Being a member of the ACM SIGEVO Executive Committee will provide me with the opportunity to participate in ACM SIGEVO even more actively and to make my efforts in this organization more effective. I think that one of the most important challenges for ACM SIGEVO is to strengthen the ties between evolutionary computation and other fields concerned with optimization, artificial intelligence and machine learning. ACM SIGEVO must also work hard to ensure that the quality and impact of SIGEVO events and publications are maintained and further improved.

Candidate for Executive Committee

Annie S. Wu
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1995, Computer Science and Engineering.

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, 2005 – 2009;
Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, 1999 – 2005;
NRC Postdoctoral Research Associate, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC,
1996 – 1999.

Professional Interest:

Genetic algorithms; Evolutionary Computation; Multi-agent systems; Complex adaptive systems; Modelling and simulation.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Co-chair, Foundations of Genetic Algorithms X, 2009;
Publicity chair, Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference 2008;
Program chair for Genetic & Classifier Systems track, Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference 2001.

Awards Received:

National Research Council Research Award, 1996.

STATEMENT

It is an honor to be nominated. I will do my best to serve in this position if elected.