



Rob Cook
Candidate for Director at Large

SIGGRAPH is facing a number of challenges. We need to stay financially strong in difficult times while keeping our conferences affordable, especially for students. We need to better serve our international members and make our content more widely accessible. We need to be limber enough to stay exciting and relevant as technology changes. We need to keep the excitement of having a large conference without losing the intimate feel of a small gathering of colleagues and the spirit that has always made SIGGRAPH more than just another conference.

The Executive Committee has a responsibility to address challenges like these and assure that SIGGRAPH continues to thrive. But when I joined the EC in 2004, it spent very little time on strategic issues. Most Directors were elected for specific logistical roles, and meetings were focused on logistical and operational details. I successfully led the effort to change this so that Directors today no longer have pre-assigned operational roles and the EC can better focus on strategic issues. I left the EC in 2007 due to the 3-year-term limit and would like to return to continue to work on the important issues facing us.

BIOGRAPHY

Our community has a wide range of constituents, and I feel I can represent a wide range of our interests. I have been both the Electronic Theater Chair and Papers Chair, and I have worked in and received awards from both the graphics research community and the film production community.

Education, employment:

- Duke University, Bachelors in physics '74
- Digital Equipment Corporation '77-'79
- Cornell University, Masters in computer graphics '81
- Lucasfilm Ltd. '81-'86
- Light Source, Inc. '89-'96
- Pixar Animation Studios '86-'89, '98-present

Awards, etc.:

- SIGGRAPH Achievement Award ('87)
- MacUser Breakthrough Technology of the Year Award (for Ofoto '91)
- Scientific and Technical Academy Award (for RenderMan '93)
- ACM Fellow ('99)
- Oscar (for rendering '00)
- Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science
- National Academy of Engineering

SIGGRAPH service:

- Electronic Theater Chair ('85)
- Papers Chair ('95)
- Executive Committee and Conference Advisory Group ('04-'07)
- papers committee (several years)
- course presenter and/or organizer (several years)