

Candidate for Chair

Vivek Sarkar
Rice University, Houston, Texas, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Stanford University, 1987, Computer Systems.

Professional Experience:

E.D. Butcher Professor of Computer Science, Rice University, Houston, TX, USA,
2007 – Present;

Senior Manager, Programming Technologies Department, IBM T.J. Watson Research
Center, Hawthorne, NY, USA, 2000 – 2007;

Manager, Dynamic Compilation Group, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Hawthorne, NY,
USA, 1998 – 2000.

Professional Interest:

Parallel Languages and Compilers; Multicore Runtime Systems; Dynamic Compilation;
Locality Optimizations; Automatic Parallelization.

ACM Activities:

PPoPP 2009 Program Chair, SIGPLAN, 2008 – 2009;

PLDI 2005 General Chair & PLDI Steering Committee Member, SIGPLAN, 2004 – 2007;

PLAN-X 2002 Founding General Chair, SIGPLAN, 2001 – 2002;

PLDI 1994 Program Chair, SIGPLAN, 1993 – 1994.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Vice Chair, Prog. Models, Langs. & Compilers track, ICPP 2009, International Association
for Computers & Communications (IACC), 2009;

Guest Co-Editor, special issue on Open Source Software, IBM Systems Journal, Vol. 44,
No. 2, June 2005, 2004 – 2005;

Program Co-Chair, PACT 2003, IEEE, IFIP WG 10.3, ACM SIGARCH, 2003.

Awards Received:

ACM: ACM Fellow, 2008; ACM Distinguished Scientist, 2006; First Place, ACM
International Collegiate Programming Contest, 1985.

Other: IBM Outstanding Technical Achievement Award for PERCS, 2008;

IBM Outstanding Technical Achievement Award for Jikes RVM, 2005; IBM Outstanding
Innovation Award for ASTI optimizer, 1997; IBM Academy of Technology Member, 1995.

STATEMENT

There are many aspects of the SIGPLAN community that appeal to me --- an appreciation for theory, a passion for practicality, and a high standard of excellence in our conferences and journals. SIGPLAN events are forums where researchers and engineers from academia and industry interact on an equal footing. I've had the opportunity to participate in many SIGPLAN events and to serve SIGPLAN in various capacities including: PC member for PLDI, POPL, and PPOPP conferences; PLDI 1994 Program Chair; PLAN-X 2002 Founding General Chair; PLDI 2005 General Chair; and PPOPP 2009 Program Chair.

If elected Chair, I will work with the Executive Committee and my SIGPLAN colleagues to maintain SIGPLAN's current strengths, while also striving to increase our enrollment by reaching new audiences. We are in an era of web-based software and multicore hardware that plays to SIGPLAN's strengths. To that end, I will seek to co-organize SIGPLAN events with software and hardware Systems conferences, with shared sessions as in this year's PPOPP and HPCA conferences. I will also champion new initiatives, such as making conference presentation recordings available in the DL in a timely manner, to help us reach a larger worldwide audience.

Candidate for Chair

Philip Wadler
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon, 1984, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Professor, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, 2003 – Present;
Member of Technical Staff, Avaya Labs, Basking Ridge, NJ, 1999 – 2003;
Member of Technical Staff, Bell Labs, Murray Hill, NJ, 1996 – 1999.

Professional Interest:

Programming Languages; Functional Programming; Types and Logic; Java; XML.

ACM Activities:

Member-at-large, Executive Board; SIGPLAN; 2003 – 2007;
Program Chair, POPL, 2008;
Program Chair, ICFP, 2000;
Local Arrangements Co-chair, ICFP, 2009.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Editor, Journal of Functional Programming, 1990 – 2004
Member, UK Computing Research Committee, 2003 – Present.

Awards Received:

ACM: ACM Fellow, 2008; Most Influential POPL Paper (for 1993), 2003.
Other: Fellow Royal Society of Edinburgh, 2005; Royal Society Wolfson Merit Award, 2004.

STATEMENT

Programming languages stand poised to take centre stage, as the web and multicores push distributed and concurrent computing to the forefront.

SIGPLAN must promote the role of programming languages to industry, to government, and to educators. The time is ripe to bring language and hardware designers together, with additional conferences jointly sponsored by SIGPLAN and SIGARCH. Funding bodies increasingly prioritize research by economic need rather than the strength of the basic

science; SIGPLAN must elucidate the case for both fundamental and applied research in programming languages. SIGPLAN approached the Review Task Force for ACM/IEEE Computer Science Curriculum 2008, to recommend the addition of functional languages to the core curriculum; despite widespread support, this position was rejected in favor of a weaker recommendation; SIGPLAN must continue to press its case.

The core of SIGPLAN is conferences. One challenge we face is shifting to increased use of virtual presence for program committees and conferences themselves, in response to environmental and fiscal needs. Closer ties to India, China, and the rest of the world will become increasingly important.

Candidate for Vice Chair

Graham Hutton
University of Nottingham, Nottingham, United Kingdom

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Glasgow, 1992, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Reader in Computer Science, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, 2007 – Present;
Associate Professor, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, 2000 – 2006;
Lecturer, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, 1995 – 1999.

Professional Interest:

Functional programming; Program transformation; Program verification; Formal semantics;
Compiler correctness.

ACM Activities:

General Chair, ICFP, SIGPLAN, 2009;
Steering Committee Member, ICFP, SIGPLAN, 2007;
Workshops Chair, ICFP, SIGPLAN, 2007 – 2008;
Program Chair, Haskell Workshop, SIGPLAN, 2000.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Director, Midlands Graduate School in the Foundations of Computer Science, 2006 – Present;
Secretary, British Colloquium for Theoretical Computer Science, 2005 – Present;
Member, IFIP Working Group 2.1 on Algorithmic Languages and Calculi, 2004 – Present.

STATEMENT

I am pleased to have been nominated for the role of SIGPLAN Vice Chair. I have been active in programming language research and education for some 20 years, and am particularly interested in functional programming, with an emphasis on formal reasoning about program correctness and efficiency. I have published within a broad range of topics in my field, and recently published an introductory textbook on Haskell. Throughout my career I have always been keen on community activities, and have organized many successful research events at all levels, ranging from international conferences and workshops to national graduate schools, colloquia and seminar series. I have also served in a variety of roles for SIGPLAN events, including general chair, program chair and workshops chair, so I am already familiar with many of the ACM processes and

procedures. I have enjoyed being part of SIGPLAN events for many years, as both a participant and organizer, and would very much welcome the opportunity to continue the excellent work of SIGPLAN in the role of Vice Chair.

Candidate for Member at Large

Andrew P. Black
Portland State University, Portland, OR, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

D. Phil., Oxford, 1984, Computation.

Professional Experience:

Professor, Portland State University, Portland, OR, 2004 – 2009;

Professor and Department Head, Oregon Graduate Institute (later OHSU), Beaverton, OR, 1994 – 2004;

Member of Technical Staff and Manager of Distributed Systems AD, Digital Equipment Corporation, Cambridge, MA, 1987 – 2004.

Professional Interest:

Programming environment design; Programming language design; Agile software engineering; Programming distributed and concurrent systems; Types for Object-based languages.

ACM Activities:

Essays Chair, OOPSLA, SIGPLAN, 2007 – 2008;

Program Committee Member for HOPL-III, SIGPLAN, 2005 – 2007;

General Chair, SOSP, SIGOPS, 1991 – 1993.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Program Chair, ECOOP, AITO, 2004 – 2005;

Member of the Board, AITO, 2005 – 2009;

Member of the Board, Squeak Foundation, 2007 – 2008.

STATEMENT

I've been a member of ACM for more than 30 years. During that time I've worked in systems, in software engineering and in programming languages, and have felt the deep influence of ACM, and particularly of its publications and of the SIGs. My first conference as a new assistant professor was POPL, and it was a real honor (I cancelled my vacation!) to serve on the committee for the Third History of Programming Languages Conference. My career has truly been intertwined with the life of SIGPLAN.

I'm running for the board because it's time to give something back. I don't have an agenda to pursue, and I don't think that there is anything fundamentally broken with SIGPLAN, although there is always room for minor improvements. However, we are living through a time of unprecedented change, to which the board will have to respond. I'm ready to bring my scientific and managerial experience to the task.

Candidate for Member at Large

Cristina Nicole Cifuentes

Sun Microsystems Laboratories, Brisbane, Australia and California, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Queensland University of Technology, 1994, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Senior Research Scientist, Sun Microsystems Laboratories, Brisbane, Australia and California, USA, 1999 – Present;

Senior Lecturer, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, 1996 – 1999;

Lecturer, The University of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia, 1994 – 1996.

Professional Interest:

Program analysis; Compilers; Wireless sensors; Binary translation; Decompilation.

ACM Activities:

Treasurer, SIGPLAN, 2007 – 2009.

Awards Received:

QUT Chancellor's Outstanding Alumnus Award, 2001; Adjunct Professor, The University of Queensland, 2007.

STATEMENT

My career in industry and academia has focused around program transformation of one form or another: from low-level (machine code) to high-level languages (i.e., decompilation), from low-level to low-level (i.e., binary translation) and from high-level to low-level (i.e., compilation), as well as transformations to analyze source code. Program transformation and tools are at the core of projects I have worked on, I would like for the next generation of students to also see value in this area.

During the last two years I have been the treasurer for the SIGPLAN board, this position has allowed me to understand how we can better service and grow our programming languages community. Each new intake of students needs to be in touch with industry developments in order to see the relevance of techniques in our area.

Being based in Australia, I would like to promote the benefits of the SIGPLAN community in new emerging markets in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as have more representation from this part of the world in SIGPLAN conferences and workshops.

Candidate for Member at Large

Matthew Flatt
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Rice University, 1999, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, USA, 2006 – 2009;

Assistant Professor, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, USA, 2000 – 2006.

Professional Interest:

Extensible programming languages; Programming environments; Run-time systems; Education of beginning programmers.

ACM Activities:

Steering Committee member, ICFP, 2004 – 2007.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Steering Committee member, Scheme Workshop, 2002 – 2004.

STATEMENT

As a SIGPLAN member at large, I would be a voice for those who believe that conferences have become too important relative to journals. Our conferences have taken over the prestige that other disciplines reserve for journals, so that our conferences tend toward more conservative acceptances and more complex reviewing processes (including double-blind submission and author-response periods), which work against the goal of broadcasting new research directions and ambitious new ideas. In comparison, our journal system, which offers the time and expertise needed for the careful review of enduring results, is left under-used and under-supported (especially by paper referees) despite the admirable efforts of journal editors. I have no easy fixes, nor do I think that immediate radical change is appropriate, but I think we should do all we can to nudge the balance back in favor of journals.

Candidate for Member at Large

Dan Grossman
University of Washington, Seattle, WA USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Cornell University, 2003, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Assistant Professor, University of Washington, Seattle, 2003 – Present.

Professional Interest:

Programming languages; Concurrent programming; Systems programming; Type systems.

ACM Activities:

TRANSACT Workshop Program Chair, 2009;

PASTE Workshop Co-Chair, 2007;

Program Committees: PLDI, POPL, OOPSLA, ISMM, 2009 – Present.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Co-Chair, Oregon Programming Languages Summer School, 2006 – 2007.

STATEMENT

I view SIGPLAN as a healthy and important organization, and I would be honored to contribute toward this tradition of excellence as a Member at Large on the SIGPLAN Executive Committee.

I believe our large number of premier conferences and more specialized workshops are a primary source of our strength and vitality. I am interested in ensuring their continued success and have some concern about rising costs for conferences.

I would also like to see SIGPLAN do more to support activities outside of the main conferences to encourage a sense of community and opportunities for newer and younger members. SIGPLAN's sponsorship of summer schools (such as the Oregon school I co-chaired in 2006-2007) is an excellent example. With some creativity, I believe we can find additional ways to support community-building.

Finally, I would like to ensure that SIGPLAN, when appropriate, speaks for and on behalf of the programming-languages community. In addition to actively seeking input from its broad

membership, SIGPLAN needs to seek out important issues at ACM and beyond where a programming-languages perspective is under-represented.

Candidate for Member at Large

Tony (Antony) Hosking
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1995, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 2001 – 2009;
Assistant Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 1995 – 2001.

Professional Interest:

Dynamic memory management, language runtime systems; Transactional memory;
Database and persistent programming; Education: programming and intro CS.

ACM Activities:

General Chair, VEE '09, ACM SIGPLAN/SIGOPS, 2008 – 2009;
PC Member, POPL '09, ACM SIGPLAN/SIGACT, 2008 – 2009;
Steering Committee Member, 2000 – 2007, Program Chair, ISMM, ACM SIGPLAN, 2000;
Member, ACM SIGPLAN, SIGOPS, SIGMOD, SIGARCH, 1988 – 2009.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Member, IEEE and IEEE Computer Society, 1995 – 2009;
Member, Sigma Xi, 1992 – 2009.

Awards Received:

ACM Senior Member, 2008; ACM Recognition of Service: Program Chair, ISMM '00, 2000;
ACM Recognition of Service: General Chair, MSPC '06, 2006.

STATEMENT

I have been active in SIGPLAN-sponsored and PL-related conference organization for over 15 years (VEE '09 General Chair, MSPC '06 General Chair, ISMM '00 Program Chair, on the program committees of POPL '09, ISMM '07, VEE '07, ECOOP '05, MSP '04, OOPSLA '02, VLDB '01, ISMM '98, OOPSLA '98). During this period, the number of SIGPLAN-sponsored conferences with published proceedings has grown significantly, and we are now at what might be a saturation point. With so many different forums, I would like to see more coordination among the minor satellite symposia, and between them and the SIGPLAN flagship conferences, to ensure the ongoing vitality of SIGPLAN's ongoing

conference programme. As a Member-at-Large, and with experience across a range of SIGPLAN-sponsored conferences, I believe I can bring ideas and action on this issue. I also have an active interest in teaching elements of computing, including programming concepts, to both CS and just as importantly non-CS majors, at the undergraduate level. I will bring this interest and experience to active involvement in SIGPLAN's ongoing efforts to influence undergraduate PL curriculum.

Candidate for Member at Large

Ranjit Jhala
University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., UC Berkeley, 2004, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Assistant Professor, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA, 2005 – 2009;
Post-Doctoral Researcher, Cadence, Berkeley, CA, 2004.

Professional Interest:

Programming Languages; Software Engineering; Formal Verification; Program Analysis;
Automated Deduction.

ACM Activities:

PLDI Workshops Chair, SIGPLAN, 2007 – 2010.

STATEMENT

I am honored to be considered for this office. If elected (or not!), I will do my very best to serve SIGPLAN.

Candidate for Member at Large

Erez Petrank

Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, 1995, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Assoc. Professor, Technion, Haifa, Israel; 1999 – 2009;

Senior Visiting Researcher, Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, 2006 – 2008;

Researcher, IBM Research, Haifa, Israel, 1997 – 1999.

Professional Interest:

Programming Languages; Parallel Systems; Memory Management; Cryptography.

Awards Received:

Recognition of Service Award, ISMM General Chair, 2006.

STATEMENT

I first joined ACM in 2000 and have since enjoyed participating in many ACM activities, especially the conferences it has organized, and reading and publishing in its prestigious journal publications. I strongly support ACM's goal of advancing computing as a science and a profession. I believe it has done a tremendous job for many years now.

As an ACM SIGPLAN Member-at-Large I would like to support, enhance, and develop ACM activities. I would also like to raise issues that interest the non-American sector of the ACM community with regard to specific concerns and needs, such as the difficulty of attending meetings and conferences, which are held at a distant location. I believe that the ACM should embrace an international and diverse collaborative community, attempting to advance the world's computing knowledge, systems, and infrastructures on a global scale.

Among the challenging problems confronting the computing community today are the reduction in computer science undergraduate enrollment, the gap between funding availability and funding needs, and the still-too-low diversity in our field. ACM has an important role to play in resolving these challenges and strengthening the computing community.

Candidate for Member at Large

Benjamin Zorn
Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley, 1989, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Principal Researcher, Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, 2006 – 2009;
Senior Researcher, Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, 1998 – 2006;
Associate Professor, Computer Science Department, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO, 1996 – 1998.

Professional Interest:

Programming languages; Software performance; Software reliability; Software security; Memory management.

ACM Activities:

Executive Committee Member-at-large, SIGPLAN, 2007 – 2009;
Associate Editor, Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems, SIGPLAN, 2000 – 2007;
Program Chair, PLDI 1999, SIGPLAN, 1999;
Executive Committee Member-at-large, SIGPLAN, 1997 – 1999.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Program co-Chair, PACT 2006, IEEE/ACM, 2006;
Program co-Chair, IISWC'08, IEEE, 2008;
Program Chair, MSP'05, ACM, 2005.

STATEMENT

SIGPLAN continues to be a strong and effective SIG. The conference program is excellent and our member services have tracked technology changes and member needs. My contributions to SIGPLAN include serving on the Executive Committee twice, serving as PLDI program chair (1999), and serving as TOPLAS Associate Editor. I appreciate the thoughtful leadership that others have provided that make SIGPLAN what it is today. As Member-at-Large, I will continue to leverage my experience both as an academic and a corporate researcher to help SIGPLAN balance its offerings for academic and practitioner members. I believe that SIGPLAN has an obligation to provide the best information regarding programming language technology as effectively as possible to anyone who will

benefit from it. In the last two years, I have been involved in the Professional Activities Committee, providing support funds for travel and expanding our support both in total amount of money given and in the kinds of support provided. I have also chaired the new CACM Research Highlights Nominating Committee, nominating top papers from our conferences to be considered for inclusion in the CACM. To date, we have nominated 7 such papers for this honor.