SIGCAS Review 2014: Overview

- Purpose of SIGCAS:
  To provide a societal impact angle to technical issues. Social, Legal and Ethical Aspects of Computing/IT

- “Conscience of the ACM” - Tavani

- Activities: Computers and Society Newsletter
  In Cooperation with Multiple Conferences
  Regular Event at SIGCSE (linked to COPE)
  Input to IEEE/ACM Curriculum Development

- Awards: Making a Difference Award (external)
  Outstanding Service Award (internal)
Proactive contact with relevant conference committees has expanded our In Cooperation efforts substantially:

- IEEE ISTAS 2013 and IEEE Ethics 2014 (incl. ISTAS)
- CEPE 2014; Ethicomp 2014 (co-located events) SIGCAS is a sponsor of a speaker at the joint day on Women in Computing (paperwork pending)
- Broad In Cooperation status with technical conferences which include social implications of their remit.
- Our regular SIGCSE pre-event is well-attended by members and produces strong positive feedback.
Problem/Response 1

- Problem:
  Despite reasonable retention percentages of longer term members, our membership is declining by about 10% per year.

- Response: We need to recruit more new members. We need to improve our online presence (updated Web Site; LinkedIn sub-group of ACM members group; Facebook group) Promote membership at In Coop conferences (fliers, sponsored speakers/events) Other suggestions?
Member Benefits

- Problem: We are very behind with Newsletter Publication
- 2009-2010: No Editor (Chair acting)
- 2012: Recruited Well-known Figure
- 2013: Editor's new job left too little time
- 2014: Backlog issue with editor (ready for typesetting)
- Response: We have recruited two new assistant editors, are in the process of removing the current editor (after getting the delayed issue papers), and issuing targeted calls for papers.
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Finances and Membership

- Small membership gives small revenue stream – we live within it but it limits our activities
- Many core Information Ethics conferences – links were allowed to drop away in recent years
- Re-build In Cooperation links, move to full co-sponsor links with ISTAS, Ethicomp, CEPE
- Build membership
- Encourage more active membership PhD students, online activity, member-member interaction and recruitment