



Fiscal
Year
2023
Annual
Report of
the
ACM U.S.
Technology Policy Committee

For the Period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Submitted by
Jeremy Epstein, Chair

FY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT
U.S. Technology Policy Committee of the
Association for Computing Machinery
Technology Policy Council
July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

1. BASIC INFORMATION

Known until mid-2018 as the ACM U.S. Policy Council (USACM), the Association’s U.S. Technology Policy Committee (USTPC) is chartered as the focal point for ACM's interaction with U.S. government organizations, the computing community, and the U.S. public in all matters of U.S. public policy related to information technology and computing *except* education and workforce issues. The present reporting period marks the third year of USTPC operation as a Committee of the ACM Technology Policy Council (TPC), which was chartered to “set the agenda for ACM’s global policy activities. . . [and] work with the committees under its auspices to help establish and monitor the agenda for regional policy activities.” USTPC remains authorized to take policy positions in the same manner that USACM was (pursuant to its current Operating Procedures) and continues to maintain a systematic process for the development, review, and approval of such policy positions. As in the past, these positions reflect the analysis of USTPC and not necessarily that of either ACM or the TPC.

1.1 Leadership

USTPC is guided, and its formal positions determined, by a small executive group and/or larger Secretariat, which includes a Chair, Vice Chair, four At Large members, and all former chairs of USTPC and its predecessor policy bodies. The Chair of the Europe Technology Policy Committee, and ACM’s CEO and Global Policy Director, also serve as non-voting ex officio members of the Committee. The ACM President appoints the USTPC Chair for a term of two years, generally beginning July 1 in even-numbered years. The ACM President may appoint Co-Chairs. The USTPC Chair, in consultation with the ACM President, appoints the Vice Chair or Co-Vice Chairs. The USTPC Executive Secretariat is composed of the Chair, Vice Chair, Immediate Past Chair, and four additional USTPC Secretariat members selected by the Chair, as well as all ex officio members. The composition of the Committee’s leadership for the period covered by this Report was:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Jeremy Epstein, Chair
Alec Yasinsac, Vice Chair
Stuart Shapiro, Past Chair
Andy Grosso
Jim Hendler
Jeanna Matthews

applies this technical knowledge to bring relevant scientific research, best practices, perspective, and foresight about computing and innovation to public policy issues. USTPC seeks consensus policy positions that are firmly grounded in scientific or technology knowledge and which take into account the diverse interests of ACM membership and the computing field.

1.3 Subcommittees

Accessibility - John Murray, Chair (jxm@calidris.net)

The Accessibility Subcommittee strives to advance public policies, practices, and research in usability, AI, and accessible technologies.

AI & Algorithmic Accountability – Co-Chairs: Jeanna Matthews (jnm@clarkson.edu)
Jonathan Smith (jms@cis.upenn.edu)

The AI and Accountability Subcommittee monitors developments in the constellation of fields broadly identified as related to Artificial Intelligence with an emphasis on early identification of the potential policy implications of emerging technologies and new research.

Digital Governance – Simson Garfinkel, Chair (simsong@gmail.com)
Danny Weitzner, Co-Chair (weitzner@mit.edu)

The Digital Governance Subcommittee addresses online operations of government and the sustainable development of the Internet.

Intellectual Property - Paul Hyland, Chair (paul@paulhyland.com)

The Intellectual Property Subcommittee works to ensure that public policies related to patents and copyright promote innovation and balance the legitimate interests of inventors and creators with those of consumers and the public.

Law - Andrew Grosso, Chair (agrosso@att.net)

The Law Subcommittee is dedicated to monitoring the legal landscape for developments that affect computing policy.

Privacy - Brian Dean, Chair (bdean@secureworks.com)

The Privacy Subcommittee seeks to facilitate a greater understanding of the issues at the intersection of privacy and technology.

Security – Co-Chairs: Carl Landwehr (carl.landwehr@gmail.com)
Patrick Traynor (traynor@cise.ufl.edu)

The Security Subcommittee promotes the embodiment of security in computing and computing-related infrastructures and seeks to contribute to policy solutions that foster secure, stable, robust, and trustworthy computing environments.

Voting - Co-Chairs: Andrew Appel (appel@princeton.edu)
Douglas Jones (douglas-w-jones@uiowa.edu)

The Voting Subcommittee works to encourage policies that support the security, reliability, accuracy, accessibility, usability, and verifiability of public elections.

1.4 Meetings

In FY 2023, USTPC moved experimentally to an approximately quarterly schedule of two-hour virtual meetings. The first of these, on July 8, was attended as in the past by Secretariat members only. Subsequently, these meetings included both the Secretariat and full USTPC membership. In addition to facilitating Committee business, these "open" meetings featured guest speakers who engaged members in discussion after introductory remarks and permitted new general members of USTPC to briefly introduce themselves.

Such meetings were held in FY 2023 on: November 7, 2022; March 15, 2023; and June 8; 2023. Featured speakers were, respectively: USTPC policy video director Patrick Sammon; National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA) Administrator Alan Davidson; and US Chief Deputy Technology Officer Deirdre Mulligan of the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP). Key agenda items addressed in FY2023 included: production of new policy statement and/or principles related to autonomous vehicles, generative AI, and restricting child sexual abuse materials online. Other discussion through the year addressed identifying potential future priority issues for Committee engagement. AI-related matters of many forms consistently topped those lists.

USTPC otherwise operates mainly through listserv discussions among the members. In addition to the main listserv for all members, each subcommittee and working group operates a listserv to keep its members informed of policy activities, events, policy engagement opportunities, and relevant information. Standing committees also may hold periodic conference calls to discuss action and progress on specific policy projects.

2. PRINCIPAL FY 2023 USTPC POLICY PRODUCTS

USTPC continued to educate and inform policy leaders, ACM members, the computing community, and the public about U.S. policy issues related to information technology and computing. These efforts were accomplished in FY 2023 by the Committee itself through the following products:

- [Joint Principles for the Development, Deployment, and Use of Generative AI Technologies](#), ACM TPC, Europe/US Technology Policy Committees (June 27, 2023)
- [Comments to White House OSTP on National AI Priorities](#), US Technology Policy Committee (July 7, 2023)
- [Comments on AI Accountability to the National Telecommunication and Information Administration](#), US Technology Policy Committee (June 12, 2023)
- [Comments to US Election Assistance Commission re Voluntary Voting System Guidelines 2.0](#), US Technology Policy Committee (June 7, 2023)
- [Comments to National Science Foundation and NITRD re 2023 Cybersecurity R&D Strategic Plan](#), US Technology Policy Committee (March 14, 2023)
- [Comments to National Telecommunications and Information Administration on Privacy, Justice, and Civil Rights](#), US Technology Policy Committee (March 6, 2023)
- [Comments to National Institute of Standards & Technology on De-Identification of Government Data Sets Report](#), US Technology Policy Committee (January 17, 2023)

- [Statement on Principles for the Development and Deployment of Equitable, Private, and Secure Remote Proctoring Systems](#), US Technology Policy Committee (December 16, 2022)
- Joint [Statement on Principles for Responsible Algorithmic Systems](#), ACM TPC, Europe/US Technology Policy Committees (October 26, 2022)

All recent USTPC policy products may be viewed at: <https://www.acm.org/public-policy/ustpc/policy-products>.

2.1 Additional Activities and Outcomes of Note

In addition to producing and promoting the formal Committee policy documents identified above USTPC members: briefed senior AI staff to Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer in June 2023; populated a Washington technology press event in February 2023 organized by ACM Communications; and liaised with and discussed potential future collaboration with the Executive Director of TechCongress in November 2022.

The Committee also raised awareness of public policy issues periodically in FY 2023 through [@ACMpolicy](#) and [@USTPC](#) on Twitter, regular policy updates in ACM's monthly [MemberNet](#), periodic press releases, and OpEds and media interviews by member leaders, including:

- [Why does an AI faculty shortage exist? It's complicated](#), *Inside Higher Ed* (July 11, 2022)
- [The White House moves to hold artificial intelligence accountable with AI Bill of Rights](#), *VentureBeat* (October 20, 2022)
- [ACM adds to its list of principles on responsible algorithmic systems](#), *Biometric Update* (November 8, 2022)
- [Responsible AI Relishes Preeminent Boost Via AI Ethics Proclamation by Top Professional Society The ACM](#), *Forbes* (November 27, 2022)
- [Status of Ethical Standards in Emerging Tech](#), *Information Week* (January 24, 2023)
- [As AI booms, reducing risks of algorithmic systems is a must](#), says new ACM brief, *VentureBeat* (January 25, 2023)
- [4 considerations for remote proctoring systems](#), *eCampus News* (February 10, 2023)
- [Do we need a National Algorithms Safety Board?](#), *The Hill* (February 28, 2023)
- [Expert Available on Artificial Intelligence](#), *ChatGPT, Newswise* (March 2, 2023)
- [Don't let facial recognition technology get ahead of principles](#), *Washington Post Opinions* (March 12, 2023)
- [Web Accessibility Laws Set to Enter New Era as DOJ Gears Up for Spring Rulemaking](#), *Forbes* (March 24, 2023)

The Committee also continued its HotTopics webinar series, mounting programs on anticipated website accessibility regulation (March 2023) and generative artificial intelligence (May 2023).

3. SELECT PLANS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

Under the direction of new Chair Larry Medsker and Vice Chair Jody Westby, USTPC will continue its work to engage with current ACM members and collaborate with other structures and groups within ACM. USTPC also will work with ACM's Europe Technology Policy Committee to identify issue areas of common concern that the Committees may address jointly. In addition, USTPC will continue to pursue opportunities to collaborate with other organizations to strengthen the Committee's efforts to educate and inform policy leaders and deepen our impact and influence in U.S. public policy.

Specific projects anticipated in in FY 2024 include:

- Drafting a new Statement and/or associated Principles pertaining to generative AI technology detection systems and methods;
- Drafting a new Statement and/or associated Principles pertaining to blockchain technology;
- Drafting a new Statement and/or associated Principles pertaining to autonomous vehicle technology; and
- Drafting a new Statement and/or associated Principles pertaining to open-source software;
- Expanding direct contacts with Congressional offices and other federal policymakers; and
- Continuing to regularly program and present *HotTopics* webinars
- Identifying and capitalizing upon increased opportunities to publish "OpEd" pieces.
- Regularizing and promoting leadership/member podcasts and germane SIG communications;
- Inaugurating a regular policy column in *Communications of the ACM*;
- Expanding SIG-related and -facilitated policy communications with ACM members.

4. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

The Committee operates by consensus and places a premium on active engagement from its members. Efforts are consistently made in meetings and other interactions to actively elicit the views of all participants and exchanges have been invariably civil and respectful. In FY 2023, the Committee's net membership increased by 13 to a total of 193 also adding to its diversity. The Committee also strenuously attempts to assure diversity in the composition of its *HotTopics* webinar panels.

FY 23 USTPC MEMBER ROSTER

<p>Jeremy Epstein, Chair Alec Yasinsac, Vice Chair</p> <p>Rediet Abebe Prabhav Agrawal Mubasher Ahmed Tanvir Ahmed Anthony Alston* Annie Anton Andrew Appel Flo Appel Vineeta Arora David Awad Ricardo Baeza-Yates Jason Baker Jeremy T. Barksdale David Bauman* Mark Berman Jenny Blessing Travis Breaux Chris Bronk Chuck Brownstein Jean Camp Afiya Carter Vint Cerf Debra Chapman Charalampos Chelmis Thomas Chen Steven Cherry Vijay Chidambaram Dr. Sunny Choi Nicolas Christin Geoff Cohen James Cohoon Lillie Coney Lorrie Cranor Rachel Cummings Wendy Dannels Brian Dean Jayati Dev Nicholas Diakopoulos David L. Dill William Doane Cory Doctorow Josiah Dykstra Cem Kaner Chris Kang Patrick Kelly</p>	<p>Julie Earp Jon Eisenberg Lance Eliot* Dave Farber Nick Feamster Stu Feldman Miles Fidelman Kathy Fontaine Simson Garfinkel Yolanda Gil Juan E. Gilbert Reginé Gilbert Seymour E. Goodman Don Gotterbarn Sarah Granger James Grimmelman Andrew Grosso Alex Gyori Mark P. Hahn Harish Harunachalam* Janet Haven Barbara L. Helfer Jim Hender Rebecca Herold Harry Hochheiser Lance Hoffman Lee Hollaar Sarah Horton Juan Pablo Hourcade Chuck House Paul Hyland Ravi Iyer* Brett Israelsen* Paul Jacobs Ravi Jain* Carlos Jimenez-Gomez Douglas W. Jones Meg Leta Jones Mackenzie Jorgenson Juan Miguel de Joya Lorraine Kisselburgh Natarajan Krishnaswami Joshua Kroll Srivatsa Kundurthy Jim Kurose</p>	<p>Carl Landwehr Kim Lawson-Jenkins Jung-Ju Lee Clayton Lewis Vince Lipsio Shaoshan Liu* Darrell Long Rao Mannepalli M. Kevin Martin* Margaret Martonosi* Aaron Massey Abigail Matthews Jeanna Matthews Jonathan Mayer Larry Medsker Jacob Metzger* Dmitry Mikhailov Lynette Millett Charles Mok Jim Moody Sam Morales Anthony Mullen John Murray Arvind Narayanan Peter Neumann Suren Nihalini Chinasa Okolo Andy Oram Paul Otto Barbara Owens Mark Pastin Garry Paxinos Jon Peha Sean Peisert Jonathon Phillips Neeti Pokhriyal* George Porter Luke Profio* Mark Rasch Alan Rea Jennifer Rexford Tatiana Ringenberg Brendan Roach Chris Roberts</p>	<p>Arnon Rosenthal Marc Rotenberg George Roussos Anthony Ruocco Pam Samuelson Matthew Sanusauskas Prajwal Saokar Curtis Sawyer Joseph Schafer Ari Schlesinger Fred Schneider Doug Schuler Andrew Sears Stuart Shapiro Ben Shneiderman Barbara Simons Anup Singh Gurtej Singh Adam Smith Jonathan Smith Ollie Smoot Eugene Spafford Aaron Temin Elizabeth Thompson Bhavani Thuraisingham Patrick Traynor Kashyap Tumkur Jaideep Vaidya Lorenzo Valeri Emil Volcheck David Wagner Tiffany Xingyu Wang Rick Wash Daniel Weitzner Brian Wentz Jody Westby John White David S. Wise Alex Wolf Tao Xie Bülent Yener Christopher Yoo Jessica Young Kenneth Zhang Stuart Zweben</p>
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* *New Member in FY 2023*