

Annual Report of the Publications Board

For the Period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Submitted by: Joseph A. Konstan and Divesh Srivastava co-chairs. October 15, 2022.

I. Overview and Strategic Directions

To support ACM's mission of advancing computing as a science and a profession, the Publications Board focuses on developing, enhancing, and maintaining high-quality publications that disseminate new research, translate research to inform practice, reflect on practice to inspire innovation in both practice and research, and support research integrity initiatives to improve trust in research results reported in ACM publications.

The Publications Board is composed of volunteers from the community working in partnership with and supported by ACM's publications staff and staff in other HQ departments. Together we oversee ACM's organization-wide publications strategy, policies, and procedures; and our broad collection of journals, proceedings, magazines, and books.

In Fiscal Year 2022 we focused the Publications Board's activity around the following key priorities:

- Increasing Access to ACM Publications in the ACM Digital Library
- Continuing sustainable transition to ACM Open publication model
- Diversifying ACM's Publications Board, consistent with ACM's focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- Continuing to increase focus on research integrity initiatives. Significantly increased efforts to investigate allegations of research and publications related misconduct.
- Improving the quality of ACM Publications data and metadata. Mandated registration of ORCID's for all ACM journal authors and on target to fully implement the mandate for all ACM and ICPS conference authors by October 2022.
- Continuing to launch new journals in key growth areas of Computer Science, such as Ethics and Artificial Intelligence
- Continuing development of ACM's Journal First Publication Model via the Proceedings of the ACM Series (PACM)
- Continuing to assess quality and impact of ACM journals program
- Assessing quality and strategic importance of the ACM International Conference Proceedings Series (ICPS)
- Addressing the crisis in scholarly peer review

II. Basic Publications Board Information

A. Members of the Publications Board

A list of members of the Publications Board during FY22 is given in Table 1. Five new members joined the Board during FY22, to help offset some members who retired in FY21 and some who moved to the DL Board in FY21.

- Apala Lahiri Chavan (Human Factors International)
- Tom Crick (Swansea University)
- Beng Chin Ooi (National University of Singapore)
- Holly Rushmeier (Yale University)
- Robert Schnabel (University of Colorado Boulder)

There were 2 additional members who joined the Board during FY23:

- Wendy Hall (University of Southampton)
- Michael Kirkpatrick (James Madison University)

Table 1. Members of the ACM Publications Board with Roles and Appointment Dates

Jonathan Aldridge (Carnegie Mellon)	SGB Liaison: 07/01/20 - 06/30/23
Apala Lahiri Chavan (Human Factors International)	Original appointment: 10/01/21 - 06/30/24
Tom Crick (Swansea University)	Original appointment: 10/01/21 - 06/30/24
Jack W. Davidson (U. of Virginia)	SGB Liaison: 04/01/07 - 06/30/10 Appointed Co-Chair: 07/01/10 - 06/30/21 Current appointment: 07/01/22 - 06/30/23
Wendy Hall (University of Southampton)	Original appointment, Co-Chair: 07/26/22 – 6/30/25
Chris Hankin (Imperial College)	Original appointment: 07/16/17 - 06/30/20 Reappointed 07/01/20 - 06/30/23 Appointed co-Chair, Assessment & Search Committee: 07/16/18 - 10/01/22

Michael Heroux (Sandia Labs)	Original appointment: 08/15/19 - 07/31/22 Appointed co-Chair, New Publications Committee: 07/15/20 - 07/14/23
Michael Kirkpatrick (James Madison University)	Original appointment: 07/01/22 - 06/30/25 Chair, Ethics & Plagiarism Committee 07/01/22 - 06/30/25
Joseph Konstan (University of Minnesota)	SGB Liaison: 07/1/10 – 06/30/13 Appointed Co-Chair: 07/1/13 – 6/30/22 Current Appointment, including Chair, Business Working Group: 07/01/22 - 06/30/23
James Larus (EPFL)	Original appointment: 07/01/20 - 06/30/23
Marc Najork (Google Research)	Original appointment: 06/01/20 - 05/31/23
Beng Chin Ooi (National University of Singapore)	Original appointment: 05/01/22 - 06/30/25
Holly Rushmeier (Yale University)	Original appointment: 07/01/21 - 06/30/24 Appointed co-Chair, Assessment & Search Committee: 07/01/21 - 06/30/24
Robert Schnabel (University of Colorado Boulder)	Original appointment: 11/1/21 - 06/30/24
Eugene Spafford (Purdue University)	Original appointment: 01/01/17 - 12/31/19 Reappointed: 01/01/20 - 06/30/23 Appointed Chair, Ethics & Plagiarism Committee: 01/01/17 - 06/30/22

Divesh Srivastava (AT&T)	Original appointment: 07/01/18 - 06/30/21 Current appointment: 07/01/21 - 06/30/24 Appointed co-Chair, Assessment & Search Committee: 07/01/18 - 06/30/21 Appointed co-Chair, Publications Board: 07/01/21 - 06/30/22. Reappointed co-Chair, Publications Board 07/01/22 - 06/30/25
Bhavani Thuraisingham (University of Texas Dallas)	Original appointment: 07/15/20 - 07/14/23 Appointed co-Chair, New Publications Committee: 07/15/20 - present
Julie Williamson (U. of Glasgow)	Original appointment: 08/01/17 - 07/31/20 Reappointed: 08/01/21 - 07/31/22 Appointed co-Chair, Conference Committee: 07/01/20 - 06/30/22 Current appointment: 07/01/22 - 06/30/23

B. Publications Board Meetings & Operations

In FY22, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was one Zoom meeting and one in person Publications Board meeting. The Board met in one meeting via Zoom on October 28th and November 4th, 11th and 18th. There was a hybrid meeting in New York on June 23rd and 24th that discussed a range of issues.

Highlights of the November 2021 and June 2022 meetings include:

- Onboarding and orientation of new Publications Board members that joined in FY22
- The Board welcomed guest speaker, Eleonora Presani, new Executive Director of arXiv, to talk to the Board about future plans for arXiv, including a revamp of the user interface, additional functionality, the inclusion of DOIs. new moderation tools, updates to its API.
- The Board welcomed guest speaker, Johan Rooryck, the Executive Director of Coalition S, the organization responsible for Plan S in Europe. Johan spoke in detail about the requirements for Plan S and what ACM needed to do to ensure that all ACM authors are compliant when publishing with ACM. Since that time, ACM has been granted Plan S compliant status.
- ACM briefed the Publications Board on progress with ACM Open, ACM's new transformative model for Open Access Publication.
- ACM briefed the Publications Board on the progress of the ACM Books Program
- ACM briefed the Publications Board on the ICPS Conferences, the questionable conferences and the review process.

- ACM briefed the Publications Board on “Just Accepted” for ACM Journals
- ACM briefed the Publications Board about joining STM and the guidelines for STM
- ACM put before the Publications Board the suggestion of removing the Rights option of Copyright. The Board accepted the suggestion. ACM will implement the removal of the copyright option in January 2023.
- ACM updated the Publications Board on the Digital Library Platform

III. Committees & Project Updates

A. Conference Committee

During the June 2022 meeting of the ACM Publications Board in NYC, the Pubs Board voted to disband the Conference Committee. Julie Williamson, who was the former co-chair of the Conference Committee with Robert Walker, who retired from the Publications Board in 06/2021, has joined the Digital Library Board. Julie Williams remains a member of the ACM Publications Board.

The SIG Governing Board liaison to the ACM Publications Board will continue to serve as the bridge between the two Boards for all publications-related and conference-related issues. The current SGB liaison is Jonathan Aldrich.

B. New Publications Committee

Mandate

The New Publications Committee’s primary mandate is to realize the goal of making ACM the preferred publisher in computing through exploration of new publication titles covering the diverse landscape of computing. Towards this goal, the New Publication Committee evaluates submitted proposals for new publications, and the Committee proactively seeks to expand ACM’s portfolio by identifying promising new areas and seeking qualified individuals to develop publications in those areas. After development of new title proposals, the committee provides the Publications Board with recommendations and actions regarding the proposal.

FY22 Activities

This committee was substantially re-constituted with new co-chairs, substantially new membership, and new staff support. The committee evaluated and approved several proposed publications while also working to identify strategic opportunities for new journals in AI and machine learning.

New ACM Publications approved during FY22 were:

- *ACM Journal on Autonomous Transportation Systems*
- *ACM Journal on Computing for Sustainable Societies*
- *ACM Journal on Responsible Computing*

New ACM Publications launched (opened for submissions) during FY22 were:

- *ACM Transactions on Recommender Systems*

- *Formal Aspects of Computing (to publish on behalf of the BCS - British Computer Society)*
- *Distributed Ledger Technologies: Research and Practice*
- *ACM Games: Research + Practice*

Committee Members

Michael Heroux (co-chair), Bhavani Thuraisingham (co-chair), Elena Ferrari, Somesh Jha, Sven Koenig, Amy Bruckman, Sean Pidgeon.

C. Assessment and Search Committee

Mandate

The Assessment and Search (A&S) Committee members assess journals towards the end of each EIC term and make recommendations to the Publications Board regarding reappointments and new searches. Assessments are based on survey feedback from current EICs, SIG Chairs, Associate Editors, and other stakeholders, as well as quantitative data on the journal submission and publication pipeline. When a new search is conducted, the A&S committee members consult with stakeholders to identify an EIC search committee chair and potential committee members, and serve as liaison between the search committee and the Publications Board.

FY22 Activities

In FY22, the Assessment and Search Committee completed assessments and searches for seventeen journals. New EICs were appointed for seven journals, and existing EICs were reappointed for ten journals.

Journal	EIC Name	Term Start
New Appointments FY'22		
TOCL	Anuj Dawar	8/1/2021
TIST	Huan Liu	8/1/2021
TOG	Carol O'Sullivan	11/1/2021
Games	Journal reapproved; new EIC Kenny Mitchell joins existing EIC Sebastian Detering,	11/1/2021 (for one year)
JACM	Venkat Guruswami	12/1/2021

TOCE	Amy Kos	12/1/2021
TOMM	Abdulmotaleb El Saddik	2/1/2022
Reappointments FY'22		
JOCCH	Franco Niccolucci	9/1/2021
TOMS	Zhaojun Bai, Wolfgang Bangerth	9/1/2021
TOIT	Ling Liu	12/1/2021
TOCHI	Kia Höök	11/1/2021
TOPC	David Bader	11/1/2021
TOIT	Ling Liu	12/1/2021
DGOV	Soon Ae Chun, Beth Noveck	5/1/2021
TOSEM	Mauro Pezze	1/1/2022
TRETS	Deming Chen	3/1/2022
TELO	Juergen Branke	4/1/2022

Committee Members

Chris Hankin (Imperial College London, co-chair), Holly Rushmeier (Yale University, co-chair), Victoria Interrante (University of Minnesota), Sartaj Sahni (University of Florida), Adrian Scoica (Google Switzerland), Josh Tenenberg (University of Washington), Adelinde Uhrmacher (University of Rostock), Laura Lander (ACM Journals Manager), Diane Crawford (ACM Deputy Director, Magazines), Scott Delman (ACM Director of Publications), Sean Pidgeon (ASM Senior Editor), Stacey Schick (ACM Associate Editor).

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

We have 3 female volunteer members (2 from US and 1 from Europe) and 4 male volunteers (2 from US and 2 from Europe). We have previously had a volunteer from Asia (China) and will seek to recruit new volunteers from outside the US and Europe. We ask Search Committee Chairs to ensure gender and geographic balance in their search committees.

D. Ethics & Plagiarism Committee

Mandate

The ACM Publications Board's Ethics and Plagiarism Committee (E&P) handles all plagiarism cases and issues dealing with professional ethics in publishing. This includes complaints of conflicts of interest, authorship, and allegations of research misconduct. The Committee develops policies and practices to ensure the integrity of the scholarly record. The E&P Committee has jurisdiction over all cases related to ACM journals and magazines, and all conference proceedings (ACM and ICPS) once published in the Digital Library.

FY 2022 Activity

In addition to its usual mix of plagiarism and ethics cases, the Committee had new challenges to be addressed. These new challenges included violations of the peer review process, including anonymity breaches or inappropriate access to works under submission. In a different set of cases, the Committee encountered multiple parties whose behavior hindered our work; these actions included refusal to respond to questions or provide evidence, raising objections to delay the implementation of Committee decisions, or making demonstrably meritless claims. The Committee has also been engaged with auditing the ICPS publication series, including retracting two sets of proceedings.

The increase in complaints to E&P over the last few years has been noteworthy and troubling. This includes an increased number of complaints involving multiple parties. Also, we note an increase in the number of parties who received more significant penalties assessed for repeat or especially egregious transgressions. Almost all of these individuals appealed their penalties (none were successful), which adds load to staff and the ACM President, who handles all appeals. Overall, the increase in the count and complexity of complaints is causing significant strain on the volunteers and staff involved with the E&P process.

Also of note, complaints of collusion by "rings" of reviewers continue to arise. If substantiated, these allegations are grave as they bring into question the scientific merit of multiple published results in various conferences and journals—and the overall candor of all participants. These cases are complex, but we have examined at least one notable case with significant results pending. However, the possible scale of circumstances is such that some formal complaints—with actionable evidence—might well be beyond the committee's capacity to investigate.

In the coming year, the Committee has goals to address some of these challenges in multiple ways. One priority is to review and amend policies surrounding peer review and authorship obligations. Some of the cases this year highlighted unethical behavior in these areas, but the respective policies create the possibility of confusion or misinterpretation. The Committee is also considering other changes to clarify the scope of the policies, particularly regarding conference publication and ICPS. The Committee has begun to discuss possible opportunities for additional outreach and communication with the community to increase understanding of the Committee's work and procedures.

Finally, an item for more careful consideration is the issue of what the committee discloses to the community about our activities, both for individual cases and broader findings. Some members of the committee believe that sharing the results of investigations might help serve both to educate members

about the policies and to help deter some misbehavior. Members of the community aware of misconduct also bemoan ACM's apparent lack of action, which would be addressed by greater transparency. We will discuss this topic with the Publications Board and beyond, but it may require involvement at the level of the ACM Council to decide.

2017-2022 Ethics and Plagiarism Numbers Active Cases During Each Calendar Year

YEAR	Ethics Active Cases	Plagiarism Active Cases	Ethics and Plagiarism Active Cases	Total Active Cases
2017	10	10	1	21
2018	9	18	2	29
2019	20	33	6	59
2020	22	19	7	48
2021	3	4	0	7
2022 to date	35	22	2	59
TOTAL	99	106	18	223

2017-2022 Ethics and Plagiarism Numbers:

ACM Journals/Magazines	Claims 32
ACM Proceedings/Conferences	Claims 133
Other Non ACM Publications	Claims 22

Types of Claims:

Ethics Claims:

Reviewer Misconduct	26
COI	5
Retaliation	9
Leaving Author Off Work	14
Simultaneous Submission	8
Adding Authors after paper accepted	3
Knowingly submitting a paper with False Information/Findings	9
Seeking to Pay to Publish	1

Changing the Author Order	1
Author Contacting Reviewers to Look Out for Paper	5
Research Misconduct	4
Unknowingly submitting a paper with incorrect findings	3
Conference Issue with Peer Review and Submission Process	2
Author violating Conference Procedures	7
Modifying Paper after it was Accepted	4

Plagiarism Claims:

Plagiarism	78
Self Plagiarism	12
Plagiarism and Simultaneous Submission	2
Plagiarism and Reviewer Misconduct	1

Committee Members

Andrew Adams, Jack Davidson, Scott Delman, Simson Garfinkel, Diana Kelley, Joe Konstan, Michael Kirkpatrick, Eugene Spafford (chair), Stephen Spencer, Julie Williamson, & Jenny Waycott.

E. Proceedings of the ACM Steering Committee

Mandate

The PACM Steering Committee is charged with oversight and operation of the PACM Series. In particular, the SC is charged with promoting the PACM Series, soliciting and reviewing proposals for new Titles, as well as making recommendations to the Publications Board on all suggested modifications to existing Titles.

FY22 Activities

The PACM SC worked with the proposers of a new PACM title on Networking (PACM NET) whose launch was eventually approved by the ACM Pubs Board with 2023 as the target publication time-frame for the first issue (the CoNEXT conference is initially the one conference whose papers will be published in the journal, and it typically takes place in December).

The PACM SC was also involved in the review and eventual approval (in September 2021) by the ACM Pubs Board of the addition of the ETRA conference to PACM CGIT and PACM HCI. This was a somewhat unique situation in that the conference draws papers from areas for which either PACM CGIT or PACM HCI are the appropriate publication venue. As a result the two journals partnered to allow publications of

papers selected by the conference in the venue that is the best fit for them. This illustrates the benefits of the PACM model that decouples the conference paper selection process (while making it as rigorous as that of a journal) from the eventual (journal) publication venue.

The PACM SC also reviewed a request to add the PLDI conference to PACM PL. There was unanimous agreement that the addition of this flagship conference was a strong positive and reflected the growing confidence of the programming language community in the strength of PACM PL and the benefits it affords. The addition was officially approved by the ACM Pubs Board in July 2022.

Upcoming Transition

The PACM Steering Committee has had the same chair and Pubs Board-appointed members since its inception. With their terms of service drawing to a close, FY23 will include the appointment of a new chair, new members, and a multi-year rotation structure where chairs will serve a shorter period as chair and then a year as a past-chair.

Committee Members

Roch Guerin (chair), Gregory Abowd, Augustin Chaintreau, Koen De Bosschere, Mashhuda Glencross

IV. ACM Publications Portfolio

ACM is currently the publisher of 96 active periodicals, including 65 journals and transactions, 7 magazines, 29 newsletters, and a series of advanced-level books called *ACM Books*. Total journal submissions (original and revised) to ACM journals in FY22 was 13,454 compared to 13,032 in FY21. The average acceptance rate was 33%.

During FY21, ACM added 623 volumes of conference and related workshop proceedings to its portfolio; this included 248 volumes added to ACM's *International Conference Proceedings Series (ICPS)*.

ACM Books launched in 2014, with Ebooks available for both institutional and individual purchase, and print-on-demand books available for sale to individuals. ACM Books published six new titles in FY22, and signed publishing agreements for five additional titles.

V. ACM Digital Library & ACM Open

FY21 Content Added to the DL & Platform Usage

During FY21 the ACM Council created the ACM Digital Library Board to oversee and provide strategic leadership for the ACM Digital Library platform. As a result, the new ACM Digital Library Board will provide an annual report of the Board's activities, progress, and priorities including publication data and key metrics for the FY22 period.

FY22 Digital Library Renewals

Institutional "read-only" subscriptions to the ACM Digital Library comprise most of the revenue that ACM Publications receives. Researchers at more than 2,500 institutions globally have access to the DL via their library, generating over \$19M in DL subscription revenue.

COVID-related economic impacts continued to affect DL subscriptions in FY22, slowing growth of new subscriptions, though there was less attrition in FY22 than in FY21, particularly in the academic sector. Many institutions also moved from “read-only” subscriptions to ACM’s transformative Open Access model, ACM Open.

FY22 ACM Open Progress

As of the close of FY22, ACM has successfully signed 65 ACM Open licenses, providing unlimited Publish and Read access to the ACM Digital Library for researchers across more than 300 institutions, corporations, and academic consortia. Notable agreements signed in FY22 include academic consortia in South Africa, Italy, Virginia, Turkey, and Portugal, as well as academic institutions in China, Mexico, Germany, and the United States.

By the end of FY22, approximately 25% of research articles published annually by ACM will be made Open Access upon publication as the result of either authors choosing to pay an Article Processing Charge (APC) or the Corresponding Authors of articles being affiliated with institutions participating in the ACM Open program. A complete, up-to-date list of institutions that have signed on to ACM Open is available [here](#).

VI. ACM Magazines

ACM’s seven magazine titles—four print + online and three online only—continue to generate an enormous amount of downloads from the Digital Library as well as attract millions of viewers to their respective websites (<https://dl.acm.org/magazines>). Moreover, all print magazines (*Communications of the ACM*, *Interactions*, *XRDS*, and *ACM Inroads*) provide access options that expand their readerships far beyond the page: not only via dedicated and dynamic websites but also Digital Editions and mobile apps that offer content on a variety of devices and include an assortment of value-added functionality.

Foremost among the print titles is ACM’s monthly flagship publication *Communications of the ACM*, distributed to the Association’s entire membership worldwide. FY22 proved another record-setting year for downloads from this monthly publication—with almost 6.5 million reported (2.5 million more than FY21). In addition, *Communications*’ online presence shares content on a global scale. In FY22, traffic on cacm.acm.org site grew to almost 4 million pageviews. *Communications*’ regional special sections continue to gather a strong following. These sections spotlight technologies and research emerging from distinct regions of the world; in FY22, special sections turned a spotlight on the technology communities within the regions of China and Europe.

Ambitious plans are underway for a total transformation of *Communications*’ Web presence and publishing practices in the next fiscal year with the goal of taking the magazine to a Web-first model where editorial content and timely news articles and commentary will be posted upon acceptance. The print magazine will publish a collection of the best of that content every month.

Interactions, ACM’s magazine serving the disciplines within human-computer interaction, recorded almost 1 million downloads. The publication has expanded its coverage in the last three years to include such issues of social justice, gender/global inequities, and sustainability concerns—giving a platform to new voices for change within the HCI community. *Interactions*’ website logged over 320,000 pageviews from almost 280,000 unique visitors.

XRDS is the ACM's magazine written by and for student members. Published quarterly, *XRDS* covers emerging industry trends, cutting-edge research, and career advice relevant to computer science students worldwide. It is the sole magazine title whose international readership base exceeds its North American audience. In FY22, the download count for *XRDS* content was over 315,000.

Among the three online-only titles is *ACM Queue*, a popular magazine serving software engineering practitioners that focuses on looming programming problems and disruptive technologies. *Queue* content, all of which is freely available, generated over 2 million downloads from the DL in FY22.

Other ACM magazines—*eLearn*, *ACM Inroads*, and *Ubiquity*—also continue to draw impressive, expansive audiences online. *eLearn* magazine—ACM's online publication for e-learning research and practice—invites educators and training professionals from around the world to share their stories. In FY22, *eLearn*'s website recorded over 123,000 pageviews and 68,500 users; *Ubiquity*, an online-only publication dedicated to advancing critical analysis and commentary on issues linked to the IT profession, counted almost 102,000 pageviews and over 41,000 users in FY22.

VII. ACM Journals

ACM publishes nearly 70 high-quality journals, including ACM journals, ACM Transactions, and ACM Research + Practice titles, across the full range of computing disciplines. Most of these titles are fully ACM-owned and published. ACM also publishes three journals in collaboration with IEEE: IEEE/ACM Transactions on Audio, Speech, and Language Processing; IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics; and IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking. The new Collective Intelligence journal, which will publish its first articles in FY23, is co-owned by ACM and the publisher SAGE, with SAGE overseeing production and rights. The ACM/IMS Journal of Data Science, also expected to launch in FY23, is a collaboration between ACM and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics.

The ACM journals program has seen significant growth in the number of titles, submissions, and articles published in recent years. ACM journals published over 4500 articles in calendar year 2021, and are anticipated to publish nearly 5000 articles in calendar year 2022, huge growth from the 3300 articles published in 2020 and the 1500 articles published in 2011. Submissions to non-PACM ACM journals increased by over 75% from FY15 to FY22, due to a combination of new journal launches and growth of the established titles. The PACM program has also seen significant growth since launching in 2017. Citations have also increased steadily across the journals' portfolio.

ACM journals demonstrated strong performance in the latest Journal Citation Report from Clarivate Analytics, released on June 28, 2022. Of the 36 ACM journals and magazines indexed in the JCR, 32 saw impact factor increases in the latest release. 12 ACM titles are in the first quartile in one or more JCR subject categories.

Individual highlights include ACM Computing Surveys, which received an impact factor of 14.324, a 39% increase over the previous year's 10.282 and placing it third out of 109 journals in the Computer Science, Theory & Methods category. ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology more than doubled, with an impact factor of 10.489, placing it 13th of 145 journals in the Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence category and 36th of 163 in the Computer Science, Information Systems category. ACM Transactions on Graphics increased its impact factor to 7.403, placing it 10th of 110 journals in the Computer Science, Software Engineering category.

With the recent announcement from Clarivate Analytics that journals in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) will receive impact factors in the 2023 JCR release, at least 13 ACM journals, including several PACM titles, will receive their first impact factors in FY23.

Looking ahead to FY23, a major project will be building ACM's new reviewer gateway. This will include a customized peer reviewer training course, which will be freely available to the community. Individuals who pass the assessment at the end of the course will become ACM certified reviewers, with the expectation that they will contribute high-quality reviews to ACM publications.

VIII. ACM Books

The ACM Books program started in 2014 in response to a lack of moderately priced, high-quality computer science books caused by consolidation among commercial publishers. The series focuses on four types of books: graduate-level textbooks, practitioner-oriented professional books, research monographs in established and emerging fields, and books devoted to the history and social impact of computing.

Six new ACM Books titles were added to Collection 2 in FY22, bringing the total in the collection to 16. These titles were:

Circuits, Packets, and Protocols: Entrepreneurs and Computer Communication, 1968-1988 by James Pelkey, Andrew L. Russell, and Loring Robbins (166 downloads)

Probabilistic and Causal Inference: The Works of Judea Pearl, edited by Rina Dechter, Hector Geffner, and Joseph Halpern (766 downloads)

Applied Affective Computing by Leimin Tian *et al.* (250 downloads)

Handbook of Socially Interactive Agents: Volume 1, edited by Birgit Lugrin, Catherine Pelachaud, and David Traum (332 downloads)

Theories of Programming: The Life and Works of Tony Hoare, edited by Cliff Jones and Jayadev Misra (449 downloads)

Software: A Technical History by Kim Tracy (592 downloads)

More than 300 ACM Books collections have been sold to institutions to date for both Collections 1 & 2, with individual titles being made available to consumers via major online retailers. All ACM Books content is also available to ACM members for an annual fee and during FY22 there were 860 active ACM member subscriptions to the ACM Books program.

IX. International Conference Proceeding Series (ICPS)

In FY22, ICPS produced 311 proceedings (248 in FY21) and 13,161 articles (10,333 in FY21) from 50 countries outside the United States. The rejection rate in FY22 was 35% (34% in FY21).

ACM staff worked on streamlining the application review process for ICPS, with significant improvements implemented at the beginning of FY23. The changes included a new editorial workflow with a set of

formally agreed review criteria to allow benchmarking of applications against the established quality standards of ICPS.

In addition, the first phase of an audit of previously published content (to identify potentially fraudulent publication activity) was completed, with the second phase now underway.

ACM staff also worked with a consultant on a project to assess external perceptions of ICPS in the computing community, and to help develop new proposals for proactive marketing of the program as an affordable venue for high-quality conference proceedings.

X. Key Current Priorities

The Pubs Board expects to spend significant time on the following issues in FY 2023.

- Publications misconduct and in particular compromises of peer review.
- ICPS -- enhancing quality control and revisiting the business model.
- ACM Books -- transition to new business partnership model and review of editorial model; exploring OA model.
- ACM Open -- continued monitoring of transition, institutional uptake, and community awareness.
- Strategic Assessment -- continuing shift from publication-by-publication review of journals to reviewing portfolio as a whole.
- Strategic Directions for New Publications -- including artificial intelligence