

Candidate for Member-at-Large
(1 July 2024 – 30 June 2028)



Tanara Lauschner

Professor

Institute of Computing, Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM)
Manaus, Brazil

BIOGRAPHY

Tanara Lauschner has been a professor at the Institute of Computing at the Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM) in Manaus, in the heart of the Amazon region, since 2002. Throughout her career, she has held important positions at UFAM, including Director of the Institute and Dean of Technological Innovation. She has been an elected board member of the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br) for 6 years, where she has been involved in several initiatives related to Internet governance, with a particular focus on improving diversity aspects, including gender and regional representation and balance. She has also coordinated the Brazilian Internet Governance Forum under the United Nations and the Brazilian Youth Program.

Lauschner leads important capacity building initiatives and is actively involved in the Women in Computing movement, she is a member of the Council of the Digital Girls Program of the Brazilian Computer Society (SBC) and co-founder of the "Cunhantã Digital" movement, which aims to attract school girls to information technology in the state of Amazonas, Brazil. She also served as a board member of the Association for the Promotion of Brazilian Software Excellence (Softex), participated in the EU research project ATMOSPHERE, and coordinated the SUPER project, a major initiative from a partnership between UFAM and Samsung aimed at improving quality of education and graduation rates and assure scholarships for more than 500 socially vulnerable students in STEM programs.

She played a crucial role in securing the approval of a Brazilian public policy that ensures annual funding of approximately 50 million dollars for public universities in the Amazon. She is currently the Undersecretary for the Amazon at the Brazilian Ministry of Science and Technology.

STATEMENT

I am deeply honored to have been nominated for the position of Member at Large on the ACM Council. It is a great privilege for me to bring my background, living and studying in the Amazon region of Brazil, to the ACM community.

Throughout my career, my commitment to increasing the participation of women in computing has underscored the critical importance of diversity and inclusion. I have consistently advocated for these causes, and I firmly believe that ACM should always prioritize principles of gender, racial, and geographic balance in its policies and decisions.

Moreover, as we witness the profound impact of emerging technologies, particularly artificial intelligence, on exacerbating historical inequalities, it is imperative that ACM addresses these issues comprehensively. Ensuring that technology truly improves people's lives while protecting the environment requires a holistic view of these challenges.

One pressing issue in STEM is the high dropout rate among students, especially those from vulnerable cohorts. I believe that ACM could play a greater role in alleviating this situation, especially in underdeveloped countries.

As a Member at Large on the ACM Council, I aim to champion inclusive STEM education, foster global partnerships for knowledge exchange, promote gender and racial equity in computing, sustain the integration of ethical AI principles in ACM policies, and encourage interdisciplinary collaborations. My focus is on creating a more equitable, inclusive, and diverse computing field, as a reflection of our diverse global community. My hope is that ACM will continue to defend Science and motivate people to learn about the various paths of computing and ensure that this field can have a strong collaboration with other fields of knowledge.