

Candidate for Chair

Kyle Rector
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Washington, 2016, Computer Science and Engineering.

Professional Experience:

Assistant Professor, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA, 2016 – Present.

Professional Interest:

Accessibility; Human-Computer Interaction; Exercise; Quality of Life; Art Exploration.

ACM Activities:

Program Committee, ACM SIGCHI, 2017 – Present;

Mentoring Chair, ACM SIGACCESS, 2017;

Program Committee, ACM SIGACCESS, 2017;

Publicity Chair, ACM SIGACCESS, 2016.

Awards Received:

CHI Best Paper Award Honorable Mention (coauthor), 2016;

CHI Best Paper Award Honorable Mention (lead author), 2014;

ASSETS Best Paper Award (coauthor), 2012;

CHI Best Paper Award Honorable Mention (coauthor), 2008.

STATEMENT

I am running for SIGACCESS Chair because I have an interest in maintaining and improving the strength of the SIGACCESS community. I contributed resources as a member and served as a leader. At ASSETS 2015, I discussed with others the potential to improve presentation accessibility. As a result, I created a 5-minute digestible video on Making Presentations Accessible with enough time for ASSETS 2016 presenters to enhance their talks. I also co-wrote an Interactions article on Making Presentations Accessible. For ASSETS, I served as 2016 Publicity Chair and 2017 Mentoring Chair by connecting eleven new people with experienced members in the SIGACCESS community.

As SIGACCESS Chair, with the executive committee, I will identify and work with the Program Chair to plan successful conferences. I pace myself to meet deadlines so I can reflect on the quality of the work. My approach will ensure that ASSETS and other activities run smoothly with the ability to improve. I will collect input about the conference from SIGACCESS Members and ASSETS attendees. I will connect with other leaders and volunteers in ACM to spread the accessibility best practices that we employ, as well as talk about the latest innovations in our program.

Candidate for Chair

Shari Trewin

IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown, NY, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Edinburgh, 1998, Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Research Staff Member, IBM Research, New York, NY, USA, 2000 – Present;
Associate Editor, ACM Transactions on Accessible Computing, USA, 2011 – Present.

Professional Interest:

Accessibility; Human computer interaction; Artificial intelligence and cognitive systems;
Usable security; Cognitive modelling.

ACM Activities:

Chair, SIGACCESS, 2015 – Present;
Secretary/Treasurer, SIGACCESS, 2009 – 2015;
General Chair, SIGACCESS ASSETS 2009 Conference, 2008 – 2009;
Program Chair, SIGACCESS ASSETS 2007 Conference, 2006 – 2007.

Awards Received:

ACM Distinguished Scientist, 2011;
IBM Research Division Accessibility Accomplishment Award, 2014;
IBM Research Division Award - Accessibility of Virtual Worlds, 2011;
IBM Research Division Award - Web Accessibility Leadership, 2010.

STATEMENT

I have been honored to serve as SIGACCESS Chair since 2015, and am dedicated to SIGACCESS's mission to champion accessibility within the computing community. SIGACCESS initiatives support the community in many ways, including awards and scholarships, and accessibility resources for authors and conference organizers. Our flagship conference, ASSETS, continues to go from strength to strength.

I'd like to see SIGACCESS moving forward by continuing to champion conference and publication access, reaching out to practitioners and advocacy groups to give them a stronger voice, and encouraging the development and sharing of accessibility benchmark data sets to accelerate research progress.

Today, we are supporting ACM as it moves towards developing an accessible HTML5 publication format, and collaborating with the SIGCHI accessibility community to improve and promote accessibility resources for conference organizers across ACM, including a template for an FAQ page for conference accessibility. Our goal is to make accessibility easier for non-expert conference organizers to cover.

The SIGACCESS community means a lot to me and it would be my pleasure to continue to serve as the chair of SIGACCESS.

Candidate for Vice-Chair

Matt Huenerfauth
Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, 2006, Computer and Information Sciences.

Professional Experience:

Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, 2017 – Present;
Associate Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, 2014 – 2017;
Associate Professor and Associate Dean, City University of New York, Queens College, NY, 2012 – 2014.

Professional Interest:

Computer accessibility for people with disabilities; Experimental evaluations of linguistic and assistive technology; Captioning for meetings between Deaf and Hearing colleagues; Interactive technologies to support sign language education; Computational linguistics of American Sign Language.

ACM Activities:

Vice-Chair, ACM SIGACCESS, Special Interest Group on Accessible Computing, 2015 – Present;
Editor-in-Chief, ACM TACCESS journal, Transactions on Accessible Computing, 2013 – Present;
Program Chair, ACM ASSETS'16 Conference, 2015 – 2016;
General Chair, ACM ASSETS'12 Conference, 2011 – 2012.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Vice-President of SIG on Speech & Lang. Process for Assistive Technologies, Association for Computational Linguistics, 2013 – 2015;
Editorial Board (Associate Editor 2011-2013), ACM TACCESS Journal, Transactions on Accessible Computing, 2008 – Present;
Associate Chair (AC) for paper/notes Subcommittee on usability, Accessibility and User Experience, 31st ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing System, 2012 – 2013.

Awards Received:

ACM Distinguished Member, 2017;
Best Paper Award, ACM ASSETS '17 Conference, 2017;
Best Paper Award, ACM ASSETS '07 Conference, 2007;
Best Paper Award, ACM ASSETS '05 Conference, 2005.

STATEMENT

I am excited for the opportunity to serve a 2nd term as vice-chair for SIGACCESS. I've gained valuable experience with ACM policies, operations, and finances as program chair (2016), general chair (2012), and other roles for the ASSETS conference - and in my current role as Editor-in-Chief for the TACCESS journal.

Since my participation in the ASSETS 2004 doctoral consortium, I've seen how SIGACCESS is a hub for our community. I am very grateful for how SIGACCESS has created mentoring connections, collaboration opportunities, and publication venues. I care about SIGACCESS, and I want to help it grow and serve our community.

The changing landscape of academic publication and social media presents new challenges for our SIG. As new modes of social media connect our world, SIGACCESS must experiment with new ways of connecting with the next generation of our members, to develop our community and disseminate information. As ACM moves to new forms of publication (e.g. new paper templates, HTML alternatives to PDF, archival of data or code, and open-access policies to comply with funding agency requirements), SIGACCESS must remain a voice within ACM to ensure the accessibility of publications and activities.

Candidate for Vice-Chair

Raja Srinivasan Kushalnagar
Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C., USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Houston, 2010, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Director and Associate Professor, Information Technology Program, Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C., 2016 – Present;

Assistant Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, 2010 – 2016.

Professional Interest:

Accessible Computing; Human Centered Computing.

ACM Activities:

Accessibility Co-Chair, ASSETS, 2017 – 2018;

Treasurer, ASSETS, 2015 – 2016;

Accessibility Chair, ASSETS, 2014 – 2015;

Captioning Chair, ASSETS, 2013 – 2015.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Reviewer, CHI 2018, 2017 – 2018;

Reviewer, IUI 2017, 2016 – 2017;

Reviewer, ASSETS 2017, 2016 – 2017.

Awards Received:

ASSETS Best Paper Nominee, 2015;

W4A Best Paper, 2014.

STATEMENT

It is a great pleasure to be nominated for Vice-Chair of ACM SIGACCESS. Far more people with disabilities, such as myself can participate and contribute to ACM venues, including conferences, presentations, and publications, due to decades of accessible computing research and advocacy by SIGACCESS members. I have several years of experience in serving the community in a variety of roles in conference organizations, which is daunting but very rewarding. My experience includes serving as Treasurer for ASSETS 2016, Accessibility Chair in 2012 through 2016 and 2018. I also served as the Captioning Challenge Chair in 2013 and 2014, which was a unique and effective

collaborative opportunity for connecting researchers on captions and attendees who were deaf or hard of hearing. I love working with other SIGACCESS members on accessibility topics, both theoretical and practical, which transforms our events to a truly inclusive and welcome research environment.

If elected, I will work with the Chair and all SIG members to sponsor initiatives by SIGACCESS and ACM to connect computer science researchers and people with disabilities and to develop and implement strategies for further growth and awareness of SIGACCESS.

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Jinjuan Heidi Feng
Towson University, Baltimore, MD, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., UMBC, 2005, Information Systems.

Professional Experience:

Professor, Computer and Information Sciences Department, Towson University, Baltimore, MD, 2016 – Present;

Director, School of Emerging Technologies, Towson University, Baltimore, MD, 2016 – Present;
Associate Professor, Computer and Information Sciences Department, Towson University, Baltimore, MD, 2010 – 2016.

Professional Interest:

Accessible computing; Healthinformatics; Accessible security and privacy.

ACM Activities:

Secretary-Treasurer, SIGACCESS, 2015 – Present;

General Chair, ACM ASSETS 2016, 2014 – 2016;

Doctoral Consortium Co-chair, ACM ASSETS 2014, 2013 – 2014;

Newsletter Editor, SIGACCESS, 2010 – 2014.

STATEMENT

It has been my pleasure to be part of the ACM SIGACCESS community for the past 14 years. I have served the community in many ways including as the SIGACCESS Secretary-Treasurer (2015 – present), general chair for ASSETS 2016, doctoral consortium co-chair for ASSETS 2014, and SIGACCESS newsletter editor (2010 – 2014). Our community is growing both in the number of members and in the activities that we support on a yearly basis. It is important to ensure a solid financial foundation to support the continuous growth of our community. During the past two and a half years, I have worked closely with the other SIGACCESS officers to monitor the financial status of the SIG and make informed decisions on SIG-related policy, procedures and activities. If re-elected, I will ensure that SIGACCESS maintains a healthy financial status while providing support to SIGACCESS activities. I will also work with other SIGACCESS officers to explore new opportunities that align with the SIGACCESS mission.

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Stephanie Ludi
University of North Texas, Denton, TX, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Arizona State University, 2003, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Professor, University of North Texas, Denton, TX, 2016 – Present;
Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, 2014 – 2016;
Associate Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, 2009 – 2014.

Professional Interest:

Accessibility for Persons with Visual Impairments in STEM; Computer Science Education;
Human-Computer Interaction; Software Engineering.

ACM Activities:

Committee Member, ACM-W Education Committee, 2014 – Present;
Judge, SRC Finalists, 2011 – 2017;
Poster & Demo Chair, SIGACCESS - ASSETS 2016, 2015 – 2016;
Local Arrangements Chair, SIGACCESS - ASSETS 2014, 2013 – 2014.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Member, IEEE Computer Society, 1998 – Present.

Awards Received:

IEEE Computer Society, designation as Senior Member, 2015;
AccessComputing Capacity Building Award, 2011;
Frontiers in Education New Faculty Fellow, 2002.

STATEMENT

I am honored to be nominated to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of SIGACCES. I have experience supporting the ASSETS conference, one of the main activities of SIGACCESS. My work as Chair for two different facets of the ASSETS conference has given me insight as to the importance of the working relationship between SIGs and ACM HQ. SIGACCESS represents inclusion. ASSETS and the support of research at the conference and in written form provides venues for both up-and-coming researchers and those offering their latest work to the community. It is this continued pipeline of international collaboration that

exemplifies the SIGACCESS community. SIGACCESS should continue to both serve as a model of inclusion for other SIGs while continuing to advance our own SIG mission in the international community. If elected, I am committed to working with the SIG officers and membership to meet our shared goals while maintaining SIGACCESS' values and identity.