

Candidate for Chair

Shawn Newsam
University of California Merced, Atwater, CA, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of California Santa Barbara, 2004 Electrical and Computer Engineering

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor and Founding Faculty, University of California, Merced, CA, 2012 – present;

Assistant Professor and Founding Faculty, University of California, Merced, CA, 2005 – 2012;

Postdoctoral Scholar, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA, 2004 – 2005.

Professional Interest:

Remote Sensing, Computer Vision, Machine Learning, Georeferenced Social Multimedia.

ACM Activities:

Conference PC Co-Chair, SIGSPATIAL, 2019 – 2020;

Conference General Co-Chair, SIGSPATIAL, 2016 – 2017;

SIG Vice Chair, SIGSPATIAL, 2014 – 2017;

SIG Conference Venue Coordinator, SIGSPATIAL, 2011 – 2014.

Awards Received:

NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award, 2012;

Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, 2007;

DOE Early Career Scientist and Engineer Award, 2007.

STATEMENT

I am honored to be given the opportunity to run for SIGSPATIAL Chair. I have served the organization since 2010 as Conference Local-Arrangements Co-Chair (2010-11); Conference Venue Coordinator (2011-2014); Executive Committee Vice Chair (2014-17); Conference General Co-Chair (2016-17); and Conference PC Co-Chair (2019-20).

If elected as Chair, I will leverage my experience above to:

- 1) Increase participation through outreach to a wider range of computer science

communities, and other scientific GIS communities.

2) Promote stronger ties with industry.

3) Advocate on behalf of SIGSPATIAL to funding agencies.

4) Increase student participation, particularly in the SIGSPATIAL conference, by increasing our financial assistance.

These are exciting times for the intersection of location and computer science, and our community is well positioned to further strengthen its leadership role. I am committed to doing all I can to help achieve this.

Candidate for Chair

Goce Trajcevski
Iowa State University, Ames, IA, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago, 2002, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, 2017 – Present;
Senior Lecturer/Assistant Chairman, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 2009 – 2017;
Research Assistant Professor, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 2007 – 2009.

Professional Interest:

Mobile Data Management, Learning in Mobile Environments, Querying Evolving Spatio-Temporal Data, Tracking and Query Processing in Sensor Networks, Uncertainty Management in Mobile/Evolving Environments.

ACM Activities:

Associate Editor, ACM TSAS, 2013 – Present;
General Co-Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL Conference, 2019 – 2020;
Program Committee Co-Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2016 – 2017;
Workshop Co-Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2015.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Vice Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL Executive Committee, 2017 – Present;
General Co-Chair, IEEE ICDE, 2014;
Workshops Co-Chair, IEEE MDM, 2018.

Awards Received:

Best Demo Award (IEEE MDM), 2019;
Best Demo Awards (SSTD), 2017;
Best Paper Award (IEEE MDM), 2010;
Best Paper Award (CoopIS), 2000.

STATEMENT

It is a great honor to be asked to run for the Chair of the SIGSPATIAL, whose growth I have witnessed since 2008, and partly fostered it in various capacities (its flagship conference, the EC of the SIG itself). SIGSPATIAL has come a long way: increasing the attendance of its flagship conference and its membership; creating its own Transactions (ACM TSAS);

improving the relationship with the industry; etc. These were enabled by tireless works of several individuals whom I regard as my mentors. Working with and learning from them is what, in my humble opinion, puts me in a unique position to further increase the growth of ACM SIGSPATIAL. I plan to focus on: (1) Diversity: in geographic terms (i.e., increased membership in India) as well as involving various URM groups (more females in the OC of SIGSPATIAL conference); (2) Breadth of application-domain specialists (e.g., agriculture, transportation, chemistry) that will recognize the benefits of solid geo-spatial scientific foundation/tools, for their respective domains - and get involved in collaborating with our SIG; and (3) Increasing the students membership and participation in the conference/workshops, by strengthening the industry-ties and enabling more relevant internships.

Candidate for Vice Chair

Egemen Tanin
University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Maryland, 2001, Browsing Large Online Data Sets.

Professional Experience:

Professor, University of Melbourne, Australia, 2019 – Present;
Associate Professor, University of Melbourne, Australia, 2013 – 2018;
Senior Lecturer, University of Melbourne, Australia, 2008 – 2012.

Professional Interest:

Spatial Databases, Traffic Management Systems, Mobile Data Management,
Sensor Networks, Usability.

ACM Activities:

PC Chair, SIGSPATIAL, 2012;
PC Chair, SIGSPATIAL, 2011;
Newsletter Editor, SIGSPATIAL, 2008 – 2011.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Secretary, SIGSPATIAL, 2017 – Present;
Treasurer, SIGSPATIAL, 2014 – 2017;
TSAS Associate Editor, SIGSPATIAL, 2013 – Present.

Awards Received:

SIGSPATIAL Best Paper Runner Up, 2018;
SIGSPATIAL Best Vision Paper, 2017;
SIGSPATIAL Best Paper Runner Up, 2017.

STATEMENT

Prof. Tanin would like to increase engagement with students during his time in this office. He would like to focus on Ph.D. students and see many more members from this cohort in SIGSPATIAL. His background and current position would be very helpful in this regard. Dr. Tanin is an academic at the University of Melbourne. He has been publishing in SIGSPATIAL related venues since their conception and attended almost all the related conferences and events. He has supervised more than 20 postgraduate students.

Prof. Tanin has served for SIGSPATIAL under many titles in the last two decades as well. He is currently an Associate Editor of ACM TSAS which is the flagship journal of the SIG. He served as a PC Chair for ACM SIGSPATIAL 2011 and 2012. He has a long experience in related offices. He was elected to serve as the Treasurer for ACM SIGSPATIAL and later was elected to be the Secretary of the SIG. Dr. Tanin is also the co-founder of ACM SIGSPATIAL Australia as well as the founding editor for ACM SIGSPATIAL Special. He has also held numerous conference positions in several related organizations, e.g., SIGMOD as finance-chair and later as publicity-chair.

Candidate for Vice Chair

Moustafa Youssef
University of Alexandria, Egypt

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Maryland, 2004, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Professor, Alexandria University, Egypt, 2018 – Present;
Associate Professor, Alexandria University, Egypt, 2013 – 2018;
Assistant Professor, Alexandria University, Egypt, 2008 – 2013.

Professional Interest:

Indoor spatial awareness, Ubiquitous computing, Location determination systems, Mobile wireless networks.

ACM Activities:

TPC Member, ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS, 2009 – Present;
Student Research Competition Founding Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS, 2017;
Associate Editor, ACM Transactions on Spatial Algorithms and Systems, 2013 – Present;
ACM Distinguished Speaker, ACM, 2013 – Present.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Life member, General Egyptian Society For Talented, 1992 – Present;
Associate Editor, IEEE Transactions on Mobile Computing, 2018 – Present;
Lead Guest Editor, IEEE Computer Special Issue on Transformative Technologies, 2019.

Awards Received:

Fellow ACM, 2019;
Fellow IEEE, 2018;
Egyptian State Award, 2017;
ACM Distinguished Scientist, 2015.

STATEMENT

It is my honor to be nominated for the position of SIGSPATIAL Vice Chair. Being an active member of the community, I have witnessed how SIGSPATIAL established itself as a premiere SIG due to its thriving research community and the effort of its current and past officers. If elected, it would be my privilege to contribute toward its continued growth and tradition of excellence.

The Vice Chair position is a critical function of the Executive Committee, as it involves proactive engagement in overseeing its growth and health of the different activities it supports. Beyond performing the specific duties of the Vice Chair, I will work with the Executive Committee members and other active members of our community to increase the interest in the discipline across the globe. I will encourage a sense of a larger community, especially for under-represented groups such as undergraduate students and researchers and practitioners from the developing regions. In addition, I will work tirelessly to establish stronger ties with the industry by encouraging greater participation in our events.

Most respectfully and humbly, I ask for your vote.

Candidate for Secretary

John Krumm
Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University, 1993, Robotics.

Professional Experience:

Senior Principal Researcher, Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, 1997 – present;
Principle Member of Technical Staff, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM,
1993 – 1997.

Professional Interest:

Value of location data, location prediction, map matching, vehicle routing,
computational humor.

ACM Activities:

Treasurer (executive committee), SIGSPATIAL, 2017 – present;
Program Chair, SIGSPATIAL, 2014;
Program Chair, SIGSPATIAL, 2013;
Local Arrangements Chair, SIGSPATIAL, 2010.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Associate Editor, ACM Transactions on Spatial Algorithms and Systems, 2016 – present;
Co-Editor in Chief, Journal of Location Based Services, 2012 – 2014;
Program Chair, Ubiquitous Computing Conference, UbiComp, 2007.

Awards Received:

ACM SIGSPATIAL Best Paper Runner Up, 2018;
UbiComp 10-Year Impact Award, 2017;
Pervasive Computing Conference Best Paper Award, 2011;
Society of Automotive Engineers Distinguished Speaker Award, 2009.

STATEMENT

As a current member of the SIGSPATIAL executive committee (EC) my role is to work with other EC members to guide the SIG, including our annual conference. This includes maintaining and improving what already works and innovating with new ideas. The role of EC secretary focuses on membership: increasing numbers, delivering benefits, and interfacing with members. If elected, I will work actively on these priorities.

I have served as the EC treasurer for the last three years, where my primary responsibility has been our conference's workshops. With Mohamed Sarwat as workshops co-chair, we have increased the number of workshops from 11 (2017) to 13 (2018) to 15 (2019). (At this rate, we will have 77 workshops in 2050!) I also revamped our awards page (<https://www.sigspatial.org/people/award-recipients/>), introduced the 10-year impact award, obtained formal ACM recognition for our best paper and 10-year impact awards, and organized these awards' selection committees. I have been an energetic participant in the EC, including moving the conference to China in 2020.

I would be honored to be elected secretary, where I would pledge to continue my vigorous work on the executive committee.

Candidate for Secretary

Martin Werner
Bundeswehr University Munich, Hohenbrunn, Germany

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Dr. rer. nat., Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, 2012, Ubiquitous Navigation - Scalable Location-based Services in Buildings.

Professional Experience:

Professor, Bundeswehr University, Munich, 2019 – Present;
Senior Scientist, Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt (DLR), Oberpfaffenhofen, 2017 – 2019;
Professor, Leibniz-Universität Hannover, 2017.

Professional Interest:

Big Geospatial Data, Spatial Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in Space, Trajectory Computing, Point Cloud Analysis, (Indoor) Positioning and Navigation.

ACM Activities:

Poster Co-Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2018 – 2019;
GIS Cup Co-Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2016 – 2018;
TPC Member, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2016 – Present;

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Member, IEEE, 2009 – Present;
Member, Gesellschaft für Informatik (GI), 2010 – Present.

Awards Received:

ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS Best Paper Candidate, 2019;
ACM SIGSPATIAL GIS Cup (1st place), 2015.

STATEMENT

I am honored to have been proposed for the Secretary position in the ACM SIGSPATIAL executive committee. I have been a member and active volunteer around ACM SIGSPATIAL for the last five years and want to help ACM SIGSPATIAL sustain as one of the most respected venues in the field of spatial computing.

To me, ACM SIGSPATIAL feels like the most impactful venue for computer science research focusing on spatial data and it is my vision that ACM SIGSPATIAL will stay at the

forefront of spatial computing research. By serving in the Executive Committee of ACM SIGSPATIAL, I would be in a position to help make this vision come true. In addition, as we are now making a first edition of this conference in China, I will promote to run the SIGSPATIAL GIS conferences in Europe in the coming years as well, in order to increase long-term membership, participation, and recognition of ACM SIGSPATIAL in Europe.

Finally, let me express that I want to do my best while on the executive committee position to help make ACM SIGSPATIAL a successful ACM special interest group in the coming years.

Candidate for Treasurer

Maria Luisa Damiani
University of Milan, Italy

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, EPFL (CH), 2007, Computer Science

Professional Experience:

Associate Professor, University of Milan, Italy, 2017 – Present;
Assistant Professor, University of Milan, Italy, 2003 – 2016;
Adjunct Professor, University of Milan, Italy, 2001 – 2002.

Professional Interest:

Data science for mobility, Mobility data modeling, Location-aware access control policies, Location privacy, GIS.

ACM Activities:

Program Committee Member, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2010 – Present;
Member of the search committee for TSAS EiC, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2018 – 2018;
Poster and Demo Co-Chair SIGSPATIAL conference, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2016 – 2016;
Co-Program Chair - ACM MOBIGIS Workshop, ACM SIGSPATIAL, 2016 – 2016.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Editorial Board member, IEEE Transactions on Dependable and Secure Computing, 2016 – Present;
Editorial Board Member, Transactions on Data Privacy, 2013 – Present;
Editorial Board Member, Geoinformatica, 2012 – Present.

Awards Received:

Best Demo, SIGSPATIAL, 2015;
Best Demo, DASFAA 2013;
Best Demo (runners up), SIGSPATIAL, 2012;
Best Paper (runners up), SIGSPATIAL, 2009.

STATEMENT

I'm honored to have been nominated for Treasurer of SIGSPATIAL. I started working in spatial computing while in industry. Then, I moved to academia, and spatial computing has become my research area. Over the years, SIGSPATIAL has become the conference I most enjoy, and I now consider it my "home" conference.

I have experience organizing and managing the budgets for events: I was co-founder of the ACM SPRINGL workshops series, co-located with SIGSPATIAL; I have organized, in total, 7 workshops. Moreover, while in industry, I managed budgets as project manager of international research projects funded by the European Union.

As Treasurer, I would work with the other SIGSPATIAL officers to promote spatial computing both within and outside the CS community. In that spirit, I was promoter of an initiative for upgrading the rating of the ACM SIGSPATIAL conference in the scientific community in Italy (2018). Moreover, I contributed to speed-up the process of inclusion of ACM TSAS in the Elsevier Scopus database (2018) to increase the visibility of the journal.

I would also work to involve communities currently under-represented in SIGSPATIAL, promoting, as well, women's participation in spatial computing.

Candidate for Treasurer

Farnoush Banaei-Kashani
University of Denver, CO, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Ph.D., University of Southern California, 2007, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:

Assistant Professor, University of Colorado, Denver, 2014 – Present;
Research Scientist, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, 2007 – 2014.

Professional Interest:

Spatial Data Management and Mining, Big Data Management and Mining, Data Science.

ACM Activities:

General Co-Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL Conference, 2018 – 2019;
Sponsorship Co-Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL Conference, 2017;
Publicity Co-Chair, ACM SIGSPATIAL Conference, 2015 – 2016;
PC Member, ACM SIGSPATIAL Conference, 2012 – 2019.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:

Professional Member, IEEE, 2014 – Present;
Guest Editor, Geoinformatica, 2015.

Awards Received:

Certificate of Appreciation for Service (General Co-Chair), 2019;
Certificate of Appreciation for Service (Publicity Co-Chair), 2015;
Best Paper Award at ACM SenSys 2016;
Best Paper Award at IEEE CloudCom 2010.

STATEMENT

I am honored to have been nominated for the SIGSPATIAL Treasurer position. I began my research career in spatiotemporal databases. While I have developed extended interest in other areas, I still consider SIGSPATIAL as my “home” conference. To highlight my interest in serving SIGSPATIAL, among other activities:

- During the last two years I served as General Co-Chair of the SIGSPATIAL Conference, we recorded the top two highest participation numbers with up to 15% increase over the next highest record, doubled participation from industry, and attracted three and four major (platinum-level) sponsors for the first time in the history of the conference in 2018 and 2019, respectively.

- I have also served as Publicity and Sponsorship Co-Chair, and I have co-organized a total of 6 workshops in conjunction with SIGSPATIAL.

Our community is intrinsically multi-disciplinary, bringing together researchers and practitioners from various fields who all share the same interest. I believe this not only is an invaluable feature, but also provides a unique opportunity to expand and enrich the community. As Treasurer, I would work with other SIGSPATIAL officers to promote our field both within and outside the geo and computer science communities by effectively leveraging this opportunity.