

ACM SIGGRAPH Executive Committee Minutes (PUBLIC)

Tuesday, 11 February 2025

2 - 3 PM PT/ 5 - 6 PM ET

Attendees:

Eakta Jain, Executive Committee Chair
Darin Grant, Executive Committee Chair- Elect
Brad Lawrence, Executive Committee Treasurer
David Spoelstra, Executive Committee Treasurer - Elect
Elizabeth Baron, Executive Committee Director
Tomasz Bednarz, SIGGRAPH Asia CAG Chair
Marcia Daudelin, Conference Administration
Dena Debry, Nominations Committee Chair
Hugues Hoppe, Executive Committee Director
Mona Kasra, Executive Committee Director
June Kim, Executive Committee Director
Scott Owen, Governance Advisory Board (GAB) Chair
Mikki Rose, Conference Advisory Group, (CAG) Chair
Katherine Ruff, Executive Committee Project Manager
Alla Sheffer, Executive Committee Director
Courtney Starrett, Executive Committee Director

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
Approval of Meeting Minutes - 28 January Minutes	Eakta Jain
Chair Updates No updates were shared.	Eakta Jain
SIGGRAPH 2025 Budget Vote The EC Chair reminded the EC that the budget was shared during the Friday 7 February Meeting and that SIGGRAPH 2025 Conference Chair shared the presentation slides and budget for review. The Friday presentation touched on many of the points discussed over the past few months. The EC Chair asked for the EC's input on the conference attendance projections matching 2023 conference numbers and that SIGGRAPH 2026 Committee expenses were slated entirely to the 2026 budget, rather than the 2025 budget. The EC discussed the split between the current year's conference committee expenses and future year's expenses, noting that typically expenses are allocated for the current year's conference and if SIGGRAPH outperforms, then the budget will share those expenses. The EC noted that the 2026 Committee should be budgeted within 2026 rather than considered 2025 expenses. Sharing expenses between conferences is typical. The budget is closer to 2022 numbers; however, the graph includes the numbers of virtual attendees which was not the case in 2022. In 2022, there were more than 1,000 attendees at the virtual access level. Since 2022, the number of virtual access attendees has decreased. For SIGGRAPH 2025, there is an estimate that a percentage of those 2022 virtual attendees will be in person at the Full Conference level. There are some concerns with grants and funding opportunities for folks to be able to attend. A higher number of submissions could ensure that the budget numbers are accurate as long as the number of selected submissions is also higher. A question was raised about how to formalize some of the budget revenue estimations moving forward and how to ensure there are common practices that are standardized. The CAG Chair noted that there are a lot of considerations that go into the budget, but that there aren't specific items that the EC can do to ease the process. Some of the changes were program areas that had been an ongoing conversation, but the majority of the reductions came from conversations with contractors to determine potential cost savings. The CAG typically reviewed multiple budgets prior to formalizing the budget that is presented to the EC and reviews numerous potential budget numbers. Vancouver 2022 was still a transition period post-Covid so those numbers were slightly lower, and the registration numbers are still conservative against pre-2020 numbers. The 2024 paid categories were 5,490, which was higher than Vancouver 2022. Denver overestimated the number of attendees, while this budget was a more conservative approach than last year. The team did a fantastic job evaluating where reductions could be made. Strategically needing to adjust the budget at this point would be challenging, so the EC discussed reviewing future budgets earlier and recommended making adjustments at the time of contract (re)negotiations as those are the major fixed expenses in any given year. Averaging registrations for the future could be a more conservative approach and should be considered for the future. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motion: Brad mentioned to approve the SIGGRAPH 2025 Budget. ● Alla seconded. ● Motion passed (12 in favor, 0 no and 0 abstain) Voting yes are Eakta Jain, Darin Grant, David Spoelstra, Brad Lawrence, Mona Kasra, Elizabeth Baron, Hugues Hoppe, Alla Sheffer, Courtney Starrett, Mikki Rose, June Kim, Tomasz Bednarz 	Mikki Rose
EC Liaison Updates No Updates were shared.	

<p>History of Pioneers as an Affinity Group rather than a Standing Committee</p> <p>The GAB Chair shared a brief history of the Pioneers: They were originally not affiliated with SIGGRAPH and about 20-25 years ago requested to become a part of SIGGRAPH. The original agreement was that the Pioneers dues would go entirely to Pioneers, but when the mentoring was reduced, the dues allocation was adjusted and the extra dues are used towards the yearly reception. Pioneers was originally a Standing Committee, but over time they went back and forth as a Standing Committee until they were moved to being an Affinity Group. He noted that they have an MOU that has never been approved. They have 3 virtual events outside of SIGGRAPH, interview all the conferences' chairs, and are a fairly active group.</p> <p>There was discussion over whether or not Pioneers fit better as an Affinity Group or a Standing Committee. The GAB Chair noted the Chair selection has progressively become a more formal process.</p> <p>ACTION - the EC to consider the history shared today and consider discussing Pioneers becoming a Standing Committee as a future date if desired.</p>	<p>Hugues Hoppe/Scott Owen</p>
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>Eakta Jain</p>