

## ACM SIGGRAPH Executive Committee Minutes (PUBLIC)

Friday, 7 February- Saturday, 8 February

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  
Tomasz Bednarz, SIGGRAPH Asia CAG Chair  
Marcia Daudelin, Conference Administration  
Dena Debry, SIGGRAPH Nominations Chair  
Huges Hoppe, Executive Committee Director  
Shi-Min Hu, Executive Committee Director  
Mona Kasra, Executive Committee Director  
June Kim, Executive Committee Director  
Scott Owen, Governance Advisory Board (GAB) Chair  
[Ashley Cozzi](#), ACM Director of SIG Services (Friday only)  
Mikki Rose, Conference Advisory Group, (CAG) Chair  
Katherine Ruff, Executive Committee Project Manager  
Courtney Starrett, Executive Committee Director

<b><u>AGENDA ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>PRESENTER</u></b>
<p><b>SIGGRAPH 2025 Budget Presentation</b></p> <p>The SIGGRAPH 2025 Chair shared a landscape of the budget, highlighting engagement with partners, committee engagement, record submission numbers for the Technical and Art Papers and strong Art Gallery submissions. The EC received a link to the presentation. Income is projected to be slightly above 2023, but higher than 2024. The exhibition revenue follows that trend. A few questions asked from EC members included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Registration revenue assumes a slight increase, though rates are still lower than 2013.</li> <li>2. A question was raised about the savings for the session rooms that are only capturing audio and slides. The SIGGRAPH 2025 Chair provided guidance on that savings of labor as well as staging/lighting. She reinforced that all content (with permissions) will be available in the platform and the ACM Digital Library as usual.</li> <li>3. The timing of when the Experience Hall is open was discussed with there being discussion around cutting hours at the end of the week. The timing is being guided by the program chairs. Opening later provides the contributors more time for set up. Those contributors don't have to arrive as early.</li> <li>4. Spatial Storytelling was discussed, with the SIGGRAPH 2025 Chair sharing that the Immersive Pavilion and Spatial Storytelling chairs are working closely together. There will be a space in the Experience Hall.</li> <li>5. The EC discussed considerations about the political climate. Conference projections are responsible. The CAG understands the need to be agile and cautious with the budgeting for the conference.</li> <li>6. Subcommittee travel and 2026 committee expenses were discussed. There has been a scaling back of some of the volunteer travel as a subcommittee.</li> <li>7. The EC reviewed full conference estimates.</li> </ol>	Ginger Alford
<p><b>Historic Trends and Change Expectations</b></p> <p>Historic trends were shared with the EC.</p>	Eakta Jain, Darin Grant
<p><b>Open Discussion</b></p> <p><u>Ideas put forward by SC chairs</u></p> <p>Publications should show directly on the 1st page of the paper if authors are SIGGRAPH members or not (i.e., as you might see in some IEEE publications). People in the tech papers community could show some pride of being associated with the SIG, or not. We need better member benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members only section for commenting and real-time discussion</li> <li>• Coming up with learning sessions – you can get on the website and see a collection of papers and panels – package information together.</li> <li>• a directory to our many many many digital sub communities that are on Discord, Facebook, Ning, Twitter, custom websites, etc</li> <li>• Instead of "member only", could it be free for members, non-members have to pay? like some juried art shows?</li> </ul> <p>SCs might try to pull in contributions to fund some of their activities</p> <p>Potentially ask employers to help with TRB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counterpoint to the above: We got donations for the dome in the Education Committee Booth in 2023 and it was very hard to get schools to contribute. States are cutting school budgets.</li> </ul> <p>Things EC/FC should look closer at</p>	Darin Grant, All

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of standing committees</li> <li>• Project management/contracts</li> <li>• Awards endowment and interest rates</li> </ul> <p>As a point of comparison: China Computing Federation (like ACM in China)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Companies contribute to a research foundation, which gives grants to young researchers (but CCF takes 10% overhead)</li> <li>• Also projects from government to train young students for international competitions</li> <li>• More communication with industry</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Consolidation and Synthesizing</b></p> <p>The EC filled out a Parabol to synthesize their thoughts from previous discussions.</p>	Dena Debry

**Saturday, 08 February 2025**  
**1-4 PM PT/ 4-7 PM ET**

<b><u>AGENDA ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>PRESENTER</u></b>
<p><b>Budget Setting for Standing Committees</b></p> <p>The EC Chair shared some historical context for the discussion of the budget. In November 2023, the EC setup the OKRs. EC directors were asked to sign up for one of the three OKRs. The OKR #3 was focused on establishing a process for the budget. Following that meeting, a new form was created to collect Standing Committee details for the budget including the initiatives they planned and costs associated with those activities. In 2024, the EC revisited this process. Eakta asked the EC how they want to approach it moving forward.</p> <p>The Treasurer shared that the new form for FY2026 was sent out to the SC chairs and the responses were collected as a Google doc. Then the SC chairs had a meeting with the treasurer, and in (some/most) cases, with the liaison present. He shared that the form has been helpful to the Standing Committee Chairs and the EC liaisons during this discussion. The Past EC Chair shared that the outcome of the discussion (what was agreed on) was also noted in that Google doc.</p> <p>In the past, the information provided by the Standing Chairs had been verbal or by email which made it harder to track (and for the Standing Chairs to refer back to at later dates). Brad created google docs for each Standing Committee. In general, the feedback on the new process was positive but some of the Standing Committee Chairs found the questions didn't line up with their requirements. A recommendation was made to adjust the questions so that the Standing Committee Chairs can better align their needs to the wording of the forms.</p> <p><b>ACTION-</b> The EC Liaisons to ask the Standing Committee Chairs for feedback on any recommendations for improvement with the understanding that the process is a requirement but that the EC is interested in their suggestions to enhance/improve the process.</p> <p>One of the changes made last year was a directive to all Standing Committees to turn over all login details to the ITS Chair so that there is a centralized person who is tracking and managing those accounts. That seems to be working well.</p>	Eakta Jain
<p><b>Future of International Resources Committee</b></p> <p>In the EC's 17 December 2024 meeting, the EC discussed the future of the IRC. The EC received an overview of the services provided by International Resources Committee (IRC) at the conference and throughout the year.</p> <p>While the activities were strong in the past, since the pandemic, they have paused or slowed down. The IRC supports and welcomes international communities at conferences, enhancing the attendee experience.</p> <p>The following questions were posed to the EC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With growing international attendees, should we consider offering specialized services to welcome and support them?</li> <li>• As traditional services like translation, audio guides and the International Center still exist? (has technology/AI taken over the coverage of those needs) Do sessions effectively contribute to making them feel welcome? Do we need a large committee of 20+ members for a committee?</li> </ul> <p>In reviewing the list of activities, it was proposed that the conference handle those needs with the EC Liaison and Pathfinders positions.</p>	June Kim, All

<p>Another suggestion was made to engage the Professional Chapters in providing a level of international support to members.</p> <p>It was mentioned that Standing Committees are intended to be of value to members year round.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>MOTION:</b> Mona Kasra made the motion: EC proposes to sunset IRC as a standing committee.</li> <li>● Brad seconded the motion:</li> <li>● Passed 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain - - Voting yes are Eakta Jain, Darin Grant, Mona Kasra, Mikki Rose, Brad Lawrence, David Spoelstra, Tomasz Bednarz, Courtney Starrett, Hugues Hoppe, Shi-min Hu, June Kim,</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION - Any necessary support previously supported by the IRC will be discussed with the conference and Chapters. June and Mona will work with the IRC and Chapters Chairs.</b></p>	
<p><b>Future of History Committee</b></p> <p>Minutes from previous discussions about the History Committee were shared.</p> <p>The EC reviewed an overview of the History Committee confusions and conflicts. There are multiple committees that are related to history: history, archive, history program (conference), and retrospective program. The presenting EC member proposed revamping the committee into a History &amp; Archive Committee which would include year-long activities consisting of archiving duties and conference duties of organizing a smaller history event at SIGGRAPH.</p> <p>The History Committee currently has a physical archive in Bonnie Mitchel's office at Bowling Green University and a room size of 10' x 40x. Bonnie will be retiring at the end of the year, so these rooms will no longer necessarily be available. While Bonnie is retiring, she wants to continue in some capacity with the SIGGRAPH History Committee activities.</p> <p>A suggestion was made in chat to separate the issue of the physical stuff in the archive from the strategic purpose of the committee. It was further clarified that there is a need for the EC to provide structure and guidance to the team working on the archiving.</p> <p>A suggestion was made in the zoom chat for the History Committee to fall under Pioneers but in previous conversations, the History Committee members didn't want to fall under Pioneers and vice versa.</p> <p>It was shared in chat: AI said The mission of ACM SIGGRAPH is to promote the generation and dissemination of information on computer graphics and interactive techniques. This aligns with the History Committee's goal of preserving and sharing the legacy of SIGGRAPH's contributions to these fields. ACM SIGGRAPH's broader vision is "Enabling Everyone to Tell Their Stories," which emphasizes inclusivity and innovation in storytelling through computer graphics and interactive techniques. The History Committee supports this by documenting the achievements and stories of individuals, projects, and technological advancements that have shaped the field.</p> <p>There have been four individuals nominated/ volunteered for the History Committee Chair. A link was shared for the History Committee Chair position.</p> <p>The EC discussed the need to save physical artifacts. One suggestion was to move away from keeping any artifacts while another suggestion was made to only keep key artifacts.</p> <p>The EC discussed a proposal to continue to have the History Committee but with a mandate to</p>	<p>June Kim, All</p>

<p>finish what was started but not any future projects. The question came up in the chat if there is some level of ongoing support required. A suggestion was made for the EC to define scope in writing and work so that it is clear.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to change this from a Standing Committee to a 3-year project.</p> <p>The EC needs a strategy of how to be sustainable and document history as we continue to create it.</p> <p>If there's an issue with the Nominations, we can have an adhoc Archive with Bonnie running it. And History can be on hold!</p> <p>In the chat, it was noted that we appear to agree on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History activities limited to archive for now.</li> <li>• There is a bunch of work to complete that must involve Bonnie before we can consider a go forward plan.</li> <li>• Bonnie needs some guidance from EC (June and Dave) so that it doesn't take forever and for everything.</li> </ul> <p>There will not be a call for a new History Standing Committee Chair. Instead, there will be an ad-hoc History &amp; Archive committee.</p> <p>A proposal was made to have a one-person History Standing Committee.</p> <p><b>ACTION- Governance Advisory Board to work on a recommendation for how the EC approaches a plan for Bonnie Mitchel to continue the history and archive work.</b></p>	
<p><b>Break</b></p>	
<p><b>Future of DEI Committee</b></p> <p>The DEI Standing Committee has been on hold since the summer of 2024.</p> <p>The DEI Standing Committee members are disappointed in the committee being on hold. From the SIGGRAPH Asia perspective, DEI is very localized and has different issues/considerations.</p> <p>Notes from previous EC conversations about DEI were shared with the EC. A request was made for the EC to continue to find ways to share diverse perspectives. The approach to DEI is shifting.</p> <p>It wasn't clear if organizations funded by the federal government may not be able to attend the conference if there is a focus on DEI within SIGGRAPH.</p> <p>The EC was reminded of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement from the website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACM SIGGRAPH strives to create a welcoming and nurturing community for everyone working in computer graphics and interactive techniques independent of gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, religion, country of origin, or abilities.</li> <li>• For any submission to an ACM SIGGRAPH conference or Standing Committee activity, the person in charge (PIC) of the program should be aware of and sensitive to potential issues pertaining to the ACM</li> <li>• SIGGRAPH values Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. If an issue is identified, then the</li> </ul>	<p>June Kim, All</p>

authors of the submission shall be asked to modify their submission to resolve the issue before acceptance. If the PIC is unsure if there is an issue, then they should contact the Chair of the DEI Committee for advice.

- To help avoid such a situation all submission calls should include the following: “ACM SIGGRAPH strives to create a welcoming and nurturing community for everyone working in computer graphics and interactive techniques independent of gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, religion, country of origin, or abilities. Work submitted to this program should be in alignment with these values.” We realize that with different conferences and standing committees, there may be different names and different formats for the submissions call. Therefore each entity should decide the best place to add this statement to their call.

EC members debated the value of a DEI committee vs incorporating the values of the agreed-upon statement into all the activities of the organization. One suggestion was made for the role to exist within an EC Director to ensure the values are followed.

As an organization, the EC needs to determine what they are trying to accomplish in this space.

As an example of how DEI can be different depending on the country, an EC member posed the thought that in Asia, an underrepresented travel grant might be directed toward students/participants from smaller universities without funding to send students to the conference.

An idea was shared to have some of the DEI committee members redistributed into other Standing Committees. Some have already shifted to the Education Committee and DAC.

The DEI conversation included a discussion about the CARES committee. They have an appointed committee member who is the lead for responding to requests. ACM is responsible for addressing complaints. As such, there are limitations in the role that the CARES committee members can play beyond directing people to the ACM resources. The EC has been working with the Nurturing Communities group to develop ideas for refining the CARES committee.

The Underrepresented Travel Grant was discussed by the EC. A question came up about who should own the responsibility for it moving forward. As the governance group, the EC is strategic rather than operational. Another entity should be responsible for managing the grant.

A suggestion was made to have an ex-officio member of the EC that handles the operational efforts of DEI. There are implications by having an ex-officio member in terms of registration to the conference, travel, etc.

- Motion: Darin Grant made a motion: Sunset the DEI Standing Committee, replacing it with a non-voting member of the EC as a DEI representative to the EC
- Seconded by Brad Lawrence

The original motion was withdrawn.

A new motion was made.

- **MOTION:** Darin Grant made the motion to have the Governance Advisory Board create guidance around the idea of sunseting the DEI Standing Committee, replacing it with ex-officio member of the EC as a DEI representative to the EC
- David Spoelstra seconded the motion
- Motion Passed. 9 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Yes votes- Eakta Jain, Darin Grant, Brad Lawrence, David Spoelstra, Tomasz Bednarz, Courtney Starrett, Hugues Hoppe, Shi-min Hu, June Kim</li><li>○ Abstain vote- Mona Kasra</li></ul> |  |
| <p>ACTION- Governance Advisory Board to work on a recommendation for how the EC approaches sunseting the DEI Standing committee, replacing it with an ex-officio member of the EC as a DEI representative to the EC.</p>       |  |
| <p><b>Meeting Adjourned</b></p>  |  |