ACM SIGGRAPH Executive Committee Minutes

Tuesday, 16 December 2025

3 - 4 PM PT/6 - 7 PM ET

Attendees:

Darin Grant, Executive Committee Chair
June Kim, Executive Committee Chair-Elect
David Spoelstra, Executive Committee Treasurer
Jenny Dana, Executive Committee Treasurer-Elect
Kalina Borkiewicz, Executive Committee Director
Baoquan Chen, Executive Committee Director
Hugues Hoppe, Executive Committee Director
Alla Sheffer, Executive Committee Director
Dena DeBry, Nominations Committee Representative to the EC
Mikki Rose, Conference Advisory Group, (CAG) Chair
Erik Brunvand, Incoming Conference Advisory Group (CAG) Chair
Tomasz Bednarz, SIGGRAPH Asia Conference Advisory Group Chair (SACAG Chair)
Courtney Starrett, Executive Committee Director
Marcia Daudelin, SIGGRAPH Conference Event Director
Chris Redmann, SIGGRAPH 2026 Conference Chair
Brenda Dreier, SIGGRAPH Conference Event Director

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
Chair's Update ● CAG Chair Vote ○ Passed with all in favor. 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain The EC meeting began with updates on SIGGRAPH Asia, which was reported to be successful with a large show floor and positive feedback. The group discussed an upcoming in-person EC meeting scheduled for February 6-8 in Northern California, with potential locations including NVIDIA offices and Netflix offices in Los Gatos.	Darin Grant
SCF Specialized Conference SCF Specialized Conference wants to change from being 100% SIGGRAPH to 50% CHI. This item doesn't need a vote. The EC agreed that the proposed change to allow the funding split 50-50 between SIGGRAPH and CHI was approved.	Kalina Borkiewicz
Bylaws Changes The group was reminded that the EC needs to finalize bylaws changes by February 28th, with no clear consensus reached on the proposed changes.	Darin Grant
SIGGRAPH 2026 Conference Budget Discussion The discussion focused on the SIGGRAPH 2026 conference budget update, highlighting progress made in reducing the deficit from $1.2 million to $215,000. Key decisions made by the CAG in order to reduce the deficit included adjusting	Chris Redmann

registration rates, with increases across all categories, and rebranding the "Discover" level to better reflect its expanded scope. The team also discussed cost-saving measures, such as eliminating certain contractors, reducing committee meetings, and negotiating discounts for services. The next steps involve finalizing the budget before the January 13 presentation, with a focus on balancing revenue increases and expense reductions to achieve a more favorable financial outcome.

The EC discussed the conference budget, with there being a question about the absence of a planned $1 million buffer, which the EC chair clarified was built into the deficit. The CAG Chair explained that ACM requires a zero-balance budget, limiting profit margins, and the team is working to reduce expenses while maintaining conference quality. They reviewed potential cost-saving measures, including adjusting contributor discounts and marketing expenses, and discussed the impact of registration price changes. The SIGGRAPH 2026 conference chair then presented the budget for the in-person technical papers committee meeting, highlighting a significant increase in costs due to the growing number of submissions, and outlined strategies to offset these expenses, including pledged support from the University of Chicago and potential donations.

The group discussed concerns about increasing paper submissions and associated costs at SIGGRAPH conferences. The EC Chair highlighted that while submissions have risen 30% year-over-year, the committee hasn't implemented measures to control this growth, which affects both review costs and conference logistics. The EC discussed some solutions that the committee is exploring, including potential collaboration between PAG and CAG, and mentioned ongoing discussions about implementing desk rejects and adjusting acceptance rates. Some EC members supported the need for careful discussion and suggested structural changes like adopting an area chair format to better manage costs and submissions. The SIGGRAPH 2026 conference chair emphasized the importance of addressing these issues before the full budget is finalized, seeking EC approval to begin planning for future meetings.

The group discussed budget concerns, particularly regarding an in-person event, with the EC Chair expressing confusion about lack of alignment on expenses. Some EC directors clarified that some supported holding the event in person, though there were discussions about long-term structural issues. The team reviewed potential budget cuts, including Technical Papers Committee meeting costs, onsite committee lunches, attendee Wi-Fi, and contributor recognition. The group discussed reducing contributor benefits and recognition, with the CAG chair noting they would return with a recommendation soon.

The group discussed budget cuts, with an EC director proposing to reduce contributor recognition costs by limiting it to students and reducing rates. The EC Chair raised concerns about differentiating between technical and non-technical paper submissions, noting that non-technical papers might require discounts to attract contributors. The group agreed to consider targeted adjustments to contributor recognition rates, potentially reducing them for specific programs or limiting them to students.

An EC Director suggested focusing on large contract costs rather than small items. The CAG chair clarified that the marketing budget is already committed, with most expenses already incurred, and renegotiation is not possible at this time. Technical Papers Committee Meeting The SIGGRAPH 2026 conference chair noted that while these options were on the table, the CAG preferred to keep the in-person Technical Papers Committee meeting if possible as it provided significant value to PC members and the Papers program in general.They debated the in-person Technical Papers Committee meeting, with the EC Chair expressing concern about the lack of forward progress in changing approaches. The group agreed to communicate with PAG about the need to consider process changes, with an EC Director emphasizing the importance of strategic planning two years ahead. Virtual Experience at SIGGRAPH 2026 Next, the EC discussed virtual experience for the conference, with the CAG Chair presenting data on revenue, expenses, and participation over the years. She explained that while the virtual experience generates some income, the main concern is about preserving future registration income once open access content becomes available in 2026. The CAG Chair raised questions about the difference in content recording and virtual conference offerings between SIGGRAPH and SIGGRAPH Asia, and shared FAQs about protecting non-papers content. The group discussed the potential impact of open access on conference attendance and content value, with no clear answers on how to address these issues. The discussion focused on decisions regarding streaming content for an upcoming conference. The CAG Chair explained that while the CAG recommended against it, they needed to quickly decide whether to include a registration category for streaming, which would affect the registration system and virtual platform development. The EC Chair and the CAG Chair discussed that live streaming would still be possible for the main stage, which already has recording capabilities, while other content like courses and talks would be excluded. The group agreed to conduct a formal vote on the decision via Slack, with the EC Chair noting this was a significant change requiring an EC vote. Action: the EC Chair to call for a formal vote on adjusting virtual registration offerings via Slack and the EC to discuss via Slack.	
2028 Conference Chair Time didn't allow for this discussion in the meeting.	Mikki Rose
Underrepresented Travel Grant Time didn't allow for this discussion in the meeting.	Courtney Starrett
Meeting Adjourned.	Darin Grant