**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the ACM History Committee

For the Period: July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Submitted by *Thomas Misa, Chair*

1. BASIC INFORMATION

1.1 Committee members:

Tom Misa, Chair, *Charles Babbage Institute* and *University of Minnesota*, joined in December 2008 (chair July 2014-16)

Tao Xie, SGB Liason, *University of Illinois*, joined in May 2010

*Remaining members, in reverse chronological order of joining*

Kim Tracy, *Northern Illinois University/Michigan Tech*, joined October 2014

Jon Bashor, *Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*, joined October 2014

Roy Levin, *Microsoft*, joined November 2012

Peri Tarr, *IBM*, joined November 2012

Chuck House, *Innovascapes,* joined in May 2011

Mary Whitton, *University of North Carolina Chapel Hill*, joined in May, 2010

Martin Campbell-Kelly, *University of Warwick*, joined in August, 2009

Len Shustek, *Computer History Museum*, joined in May, 2005

Carol Hutchins, *Courant Institute Library*, joined in February, 2005

Mary Hall, *University of Utah*, joined in January 2005, chair 2009-2014

1.2 Committee charter:

*The ACM History Committee fosters collection, preservation, and interpretation of the history of the ACM and its role in the development of computing. To this end, the committee provides guidance within the Association and carries out activities independently and in collaboration with other groups.*

1.3 Organization of the committee into subcommittees:

*The committee is small, so we haven’t had subunits; a 3-person subcommittee will oversee the Turing Oral History Project (FY’16-)*

1.4 Dates of committee meetings.

Monthly Teleconferences:

10/7/2014, 11/11/2014, 12/9/2014, 2/2/2015, 2/25/2015, 4/24/2015, 5/12/2015

Annual face-to-face meeting:

12 March 2015, ACM Headquarters, NYC

2. PROJECT SUMMARY

List all projects that have been active at any time during the fiscal year.

Turing OH Project all 2015 ACM funded

*Developed 3-year project to do video oral-histories for all non-interviewed Turing Award winners (project awarded $210K in ACM development funding June 2015).*

Turing Award all 2005 launched, $2.5K $2.5K

Website ongoing

*Create webpage entries at <amturing.acm.org> for Turing Award winners.*

Research

Fellowship all 2009 ongoing $30K $28K

*Fund research projects: travel for collections, interviews, archive site visits.*

*2015 Awardees: Ismail Akturk, Sebastian Dziallas, Rajeev Agrawal, Scott Campbell, Janet Mary Toland (see awardees and projects at http://history.acm.org/public/public\_documents/acm\_history\_fellows.php )*

Oral

Histories Hall 2004 ongoing $10K *unknown*

*Commission oral histories of ACM officers, editors, and others – two transcripts are in need of final editing to be ready for posting.*

History Blog Xie 2011 ongoing $0 $0

*Provide a forum for active discussion. Includes postings from fellowship awardees.*

ACM Books Misa 2013 ongoing $0 $0

*Publish ACM related history through ACM Books: two titles in 2015 <http://books.acm.org/subjects/forthcoming-titles>: Bernadette Longo’s biography of ACM founder Edmund Berkeley* and *Robin Hammerman and Andrew Russell’s edited volume on Ada Lovelace (to appear prior to December 2015 birth bicentennial).*

Research Workshop Misa 2015 ongoing $10K [approx $10K]

*ACM HC has organized a workshop on ACM history to be embedded in the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Technology (Albuquerque NM 8-11 Oct 2015); two full sessions accepted onto the program with a total of 8 ACM history-related papers*

3. PLANS

3.1 Projects that will be completed or terminated in the coming year.

We previously commissioning oral histories of previous editors-in-chief from CACM and JACM. Two oral histories are (still) in final editing.

Prepared essay on ACM HC activities for *CACM* (in production 7/2015, forthcoming).

3.2 List important changes or milestones in active projects during the coming year.

Tom Haigh began work as Turing Award website Curator-in-Chief in January 2015 (and will be responsible for awards 2014 et seq.).

Mike Williams agreed to take up curator role for newly funded Turing Oral History Project (and began work beginning summer 2015).

ACM HC has been planning a “research workshop” for several years, seeking the right time/place; we organized and will hold workshop at SHOT meeting in mid-October 2015

3.3 List new projects or programs which are proposed or contemplated.

We are discussing the logistics of doing an “oral history” workshop aimed at ACM / SIG members, to complement the “archiving” workshop in May 2014.

3.4 List details of plan to increase the diversity of the committee membership, with respect to younger members, a wider geographic representation, and a better balance with respect to industry/academia, gender, and other under-represented groups.

Two recently added members are: Jon Bashor from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Kim W. Tracy from Michigan Tech. Committee is actively supporting grantee Rajeev Agrawal, North Carolina A & T State University, on “Documenting the contributions of African-Americans in Computing Research and Education.”

The current composition of the committee is reasonably diverse. Four out of 12 current members are female, including the past chair. Four new members have been added in the past 3 years, two from industry and one female. The geographic distribution includes one international member and representative geographical coverage from across the U.S. Six of the members are academics, one works as a librarian in a university institute, one directs a museum, and one works in a national lab; two work in industry. Misa is listed as an academic but also works at a historical institute. Most of the members are mid-career to senior, other than Tao Xie, a recent associate professor. The committee has had strong SIGPLAN and SIGGRAPH connections and is hoping to further broaden its SIG activities.

4. COMMENTS

List any comments you wish brought to your Board's or Council's attention.

The ACM History Committee mobilizes the members’ expertise to advise ACM and associates on historical activities, documentation, interviewing, and information. This year, we responded actively to ACM president Alexander Wolf’s request to address 2015 opportunities for Ada Lovelace and George Boole-related activities, including sponsoring public talks at the Computer History Museum, consulting with Oxford University’s December 2015 Lovelace workshop, and publishing an Ada Lovelace volume with ACM Books. We worked with ACM VP Vicki Hanson to develop historical texts on Boole and Lovelace.

# **APPENDIX**

Address list of all committee members:

Name: Tom Misa

Address: Charles Babbage Institute; 211 Andersen Library; 222 - 21st Avenue

South; University of Minnesota; Minneapolis, MN 55455

Phone: (612) 624-5050

Fax: 612 625-8054

Email: tmisa@umn.edu

Responsibility within the Committee: Chair (2014-16)

Name: Tao Xie

Address: Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Urbana, IL 61801

Phone: 217-244-5931

Fax:

Email: taoxie@illinois.edu

Responsibility within the Committee: SGB representative

Name: Mary Hall

Address: School of Computing, University of Utah; 50 S. Central Campus Dr.; Salt Lake City, UT 84103

Phone: 801-585-1039

Fax: 801-581-5843

Email: mhall@cs.utah.edu

Responsibility within the Committee: Former Chair (2009-14)

Name: Jon Bashor

Address: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA 94720

Phone: (510) 486-5849

Fax:

Email: jbashor@lbl.gov

Responsibility within the Committee: Member at large

Name: Kim Tracy

Address: Michigan Technological University, Houghton MI

Phone:

Fax:

Email: k.w.tracy@ieee.org

Responsibility within the Committee: Member at large

Name: Roy Levin

Address: Microsoft Research Silicon Valley, 1065 La Avenida; Mountain View, CA 94043

Phone: 650-693-2108

Fax:

Email: roy.levin@microsoft.com

Responsibility within the Committee: Member at large

Name: Peri Tarr

Address: Analytics and Optimization of Software and Systems Delivery, Thomas J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY USA

Phone: (914) 945-4543

Fax:

Email: tarr@us.ibm.com

Responsibility within the Committee: Member at large

Name: Chuck House

Address: Innovascapes

Phone: (805) 570 6706

Fax:

Email: housec1839@gmail.com

Responsibility within the Committee: Member at large

Name: Mary Whitton

Address: Department of  Computer Science; University of North Carolina at

Chapel Hill;  256 Sitterson Hall , CB #3175; Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3175

Phone: (919) 962-1950

Fax:  (919) 962-1799

Email: whitton@cs.unc.edu

Responsibility within the Committee: SIG representative

Name: Martin Campbell-Kelly

Address: Department of Computer Science, University of Warwick;

Coventry CV4 7AL; United Kingdom

Phone: +44 2476523193

Fax:

Email: m.campbell-kelly@warwick.ac.uk

Responsibility within the Committee: Historian

Name: Len Shustek

Address: Computer History Museum; 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd;

Mountain View, CA 94043

Phone: (650) 810-1010

Fax:

Email: shustek@computerhistory.org

Responsibility within the Committee: CHM Liaison

Name: Carol Hutchins

Address: Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences Library; Warren Weaver

Hall, 12th Floor; 251 Mercer Street; New York, NY 10012

Phone: (212) 998-3314

Fax:

Email: hutchins@nyu.edu

Responsibility within the Committee: ACM Publications Board Representative