



**FY 23 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**ACM TECHNOLOGY POLICY COUNCIL**  
For the Period: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023  
Submitted by James Hendler, Chair

**1. BASIC INFORMATION**

**1.1 Members of the Council**

*Jim Hendler*  
*Chair*

*Michel Beaudouin-Lafon*  
*Vice Chair*

*Members:*

Virgilio Almeida  
Vinton Cerf  
Jeremy Epstein  
Chris Hankin  
Paola Inverardi

Lorraine Kisselburgh  
Jeanna Matthews  
P.J. Narayanan  
Stuart Shapiro  
Barbara Simons  
Danny Weitzner

**1.2 Standing Committees**

- Europe Technology Policy Committee – Chris Hankin, Chair (June 30, 2024)
- TechBriefs Committee – Stuart Shapiro, Chair (June 30, 2023)
- U.S. Technology Policy Committee – Jeremy Epstein, Chair (June 30, 2023)

**1.3 Working Groups**

In FY22, the TPC discussed and opted to explore creating more regional committees and/or one committee that would focus on non-US/Europe policy. In discussion at the Council's January 2023 meeting, however, it was determined that establishing one or more issue-oriented Working Groups would be a preferable way to foster greater international coordination and more members from outside the United States and Europe. (Council members also noted that this structure would be less likely to duplicate the efforts of the ACM President's Regional Engagement Group.)

In FY23, the Council created two such Working Groups: one on Artificial Intelligence chaired by Jeanna Matthews to coordinate work on AI policy internationally, and a second on outreach to international policy organizations to be led by Council Chair Jim Hendler. (Numerous international organizations have computational areas of responsibility (e.g., the UN committee on data governance, UN AI Policy groups, and the World Economic Forum.) The International Outreach Working Group will identify such groups and develop plans as to how the Council might best liaise, coordinate, and collaborate with them.

In addition, a plan was formulated to find chairs to lead additional working groups to focus on issues of particular interest in the global south and other non-US/Europe concerns. For example, in Africa, India and parts of Southern Asia, many countries have opted for a solely mobile telecommunications, rather than broadband-based, infrastructure. The TPC Chair has been in contact with the African Society of Scientists to recruit a chair for this group who is also an ACM member. (This effort was put on hold when the TPC was suspended but will be an agenda item at the TPC's next meeting to be held, if possible, by the end of Q4 2023.)

Commented [AE1]: This date OK to project/specify, Jim?

2. **PROJECT SUMMARY** (Only TechBriefs and other projects endorsed by the Council appear below. Consult the individual US and Europe policy committee reports for their joint and individual outputs.)

Title	Manager	Released	Spent
<b>Council-Reviewed and -Endorsed Committee Products</b>			
Principles for the Development, Deployment, and Use of Generative AI Technologies	n/a	06/27/23	n/a
Joint Statement on Principles for Responsible Algorithmic Systems	n/a	10/26/22	n/a
<b>TechBriefs</b>			
Issue 7: The Data Trust Deficit		Spring 2023	\$785
Issue 6: Safer Algorithmic Systems		01/2023	\$800
Issue 5: Election Security: Risk-Limiting Audits		10/2022	\$705
Issue 4: Quantum Computing and Simulation		07/2022	\$773

3. **PLANS**

3.1 **List projects that will be completed or terminated in the coming year.**

- TechBriefs Issue 8: *Generative Artificial* (completed Summer 2023);
- ACM policy video (Q3 2023);
- Development of TPC Strategic Plan (est. Q4 2023);
- Targeted outreach to aligned international organizations re: joint activity, programs (ongoing).

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

A process was developed to streamline approval of *TechBriefs*, allowing earlier inputs from the TPC and providing a mechanism and timetable for suggestions from the TPC for future topics and authors. Detailed guidance for TechBriefs authors also was substantially completed by the Committee's Chair.

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

- With ACM Communications, develop "policy education/engagement" campaign;
- Direct outreach to global membership to identify key current and "horizon" issues to address (see above re: Working Groups);
- Informally explore catalyzation of member policy activities in Global South, other regions (in concert with ACM regional development strategic plans).

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

The Council per se is primarily made up of senior members of the policy community. It oversees three committees (see above), each of which works actively to attract younger members. The current Council includes 4 women and 9 men, includes members from 5 countries, and a mix of academic and industrial members. The Council would benefit from a member from Africa (the only major continent not represented) and identifying and recruiting someone to meet that need will be an FY24 priority. Multiple of the members of the Council are hearing impaired, and we use assistive technology on calls and at meetings to help make sure that everyone is included.

## **4. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION**

**Describe your efforts related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.**

All three of our committees are reminded of the importance of DEI and work to maintain balance of gender and other items. The USTPC made a concerted, and successful, effort to attract student members. The other two committees are exploring how to use similar models.

## **5. COMMENTS**

**List any comments you wish brought to Council's attention.**

The *global* TPC is working to find ways to interact with more of the international community beyond the US and Europe. While we are in discussion with the India Council, it is clear they are not ready to create a full India Technology Policy Committee and other parts of ACM's international membership don't yet have ways to engage with the TPC.

In addition to the Working Groups discussed above, we are exploring new ways for ‘ad hoc’ groups to propose “technology letters” for publication by the TPC, and better ways to engage the ACM President, Council and Executive Committee to help prioritize the international policy issues on which future Tech Briefs may focus.

**Please provide a brief (paragraph) summary of one or two of your activities that would be of interest to the broad ACM community (or provide a link to a write-up of such information).**

As well as the products described in Section 2 above, the work of the TPC and its three committees are regularly reported upon in ACM’s monthly MemberNet. In addition, the TechBriefs committee has created a recognizable brand for major policy issues and has received strong positive feedback on the briefs we have released thus far. All [TechBriefs](#) are published in the ACM Digital Library. Each of the seven Briefs published at this writing has been downloaded several thousand times, as follows:

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Published</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Downloads</b>
<b>1</b>	Nov 2021	Computing and Climate Change	8406
<b>2</b>	Feb 2022	Facial Recognition	4202
<b>3</b>	April 2022	Smart Cities	4341
<b>4</b>	July 2022	Quantum Computing and Simulation	4919
<b>5</b>	October 2022	Election Security: Risk-Limiting Audits	3569
<b>6</b>	January 2023	Safer Algorithmic Systems	7029
<b>7</b>	Spring 2023	The Data Trust Deficit	5668
		<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	38,134

## APPENDIX

List of all committee members, subcommittee or subunit chairs and members, and other persons responsible for projects. Use this format:

**Name: James Hendler**

Email: hendler@cs.rpi.edu

Responsibility: TPC Chair

**Name: Michel Beaudouin-Lafon**

Email: mbl@lri.fr

Responsibility: TPC Vice Chair

**Name: Chris Hankin**

Email: c.hankin@imperial.ac.uk

Responsibility: Chair, Europe Technology Policy Committee

**Name: Stuart Shapiro**

Email: s\_shapiro@acm.org

Responsibility: Chair TechBriefs Committee

**Name: Jeremy Epstein**

Email: jeremy.j.epstein@gmail.com

Responsibility: Chair, US Technology Policy Committee