The SIGAPP mission is to further the interests of the computing professionals engaged in the development of new computing applications and applications areas and the transfer of computing technology to new problem domains.

SIGAPP Officers

Chair - Barrett R. Bryant, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA
Vice Chair – Sung Shin, South Dakota State University, USA
Secretary – Chang-Hyun Jo, California State University-Fullerton, USA
Treasurer - Ronaldo P. Menezes, Florida Institute of Technology, USA
Web Master - Hisham Haddad, Kennesaw State University, USA
ACM Program Coordinator, Irene Frawley, ACM HQ

Status of SIGAPP

The main event that took place within SIGAPP over the past year was the formal review of viability by the ACM SGB. As SIGAPP had been in transition, it was a major milestone to be found viable as a full-service SIG for the next 4 years.

Our SIG's main conference is the Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC) and this year's SAC was very successful. More details about SAC will follow in the next section. We also supported six additional conferences with in-cooperation status, namely the SIGAda 2005 (ACM SIGAda Annual International Conference), EATIS 2006 (Euro-American Conference on Telematics and Information Systems), CBMS 2006 (IEEE Symposium on Computer-Based Medical Systems), PPPJ 2006 (Principles and Practices of Programming in Java), CaSTA 2006 (Canadian Symposium on Text Analysis), and ACMSE 2006 (44th ACM Southeast Conference), and will continue support additional conferences in the coming year.

Last year we began planning for an ACM Transactions on Applied Computing, a refereed publication which would serve as a publication outlet for papers from our SIG's members. This has gotten off to a slower start than expected but we are still hopeful to have a proposal to submit to ACM by Fall 2006.

In 2006, an award for Distinguished Service to SAC was awarded to Hisham Haddad. This award had been established some time ago but was first granted in 2005 and is now planned as an annual event, with an awards committee now firmly in place. The Student Travel Award Program continues to be successful in assisting SIGAPP student members in attending conferences sponsored by or in-cooperation with SIGAPP. 12 students were granted awards to attend SAC 2006, including 3 from North America, 1 from South America and 4 from Asia. This was less than last year since there were more international awards than last year (in this case, from outside Europe, as the conference was held in France). We have increased the budget for these awards for 2007.

The current membership stands at 348, the fourth consecutive year membership has increased. The proposed efforts to establish a refereed publication on applied computing will potentially enlarge this membership, which now primarily consists of those who attend SAC.

SIGAPP's and SAC's strength and uniqueness among ACM SIGs continues to be the opportunity for scientific diversity and crosscutting multiple disciplines within the ACM community. The officers look forward to continue working with the ACM SGB to further develop the SIG by increasing membership and developing the new transactions.

Status of SAC

SAC 2006 was held in Dijon, France, April 23-27, 2006, hosted by the University of Bourgogne. Thanks to a great organizing committee, it was an extremely successful symposium with the most number of submissions, accepted papers and posters ever. New tracks included Advances in Spatial and Image-based Information Systems, Computer Ethics and Human Values, Computer Forensics, Geometric Computing and Reasoning, Model Transformation, and More Accurate Computation: Methods and Software. The number of SAC papers submitted was 921 in 38 tracks with 300 papers accepted based upon extensive Track reviews, for a 33% ratio. The poster session featured 60 posters.

SAC 2007 will be held in Seoul, Korea, March 11-15, 2007, and will be hosted by Seoul National University and Suwon University. The web site http://www.acm.org/conferences/sac/sac2007 has further details such as symposium committee, technical tracks, and track chairs. SAC 2007 marks not only a departure from the last few years' practice of alternating between the U. S. and Europe, but also will be the first time SAC has been held in Asia.

SAC 2008 is being planned for Fortaleza, Brazil, which will be the first time SAC has been held in South America.

Summary

1. Awards that were given out
a. Distinguished Service to SAC – Hisham Haddad
b. Student Travel Awards – 12 awards granted, totaling $5,200

2. Significant papers on new areas that were published in proceedings - new tracks in SAC 2006 on Advances in Spatial and Image-based Information Systems, Computer Ethics and Human Values, Computer Forensics, Geometric Computing and Reasoning, Model Transformation, and More Accurate Computation: Methods and Software

3. Significant programs that provided a springboard for further technical efforts – finalizing plans to hold SAC 2007 in Asia and SAC 2008 in South America, each continent for the first time, to further develop participation from researchers in those regions of the world

4. Innovative programs which provide service to some part of your technical community – expansion of Student Travel Award Program for SIGAPP student members

5 A very brief summary for the key issues that the membership of that SIG will have to deal with in the next 2-3 years – continuation of awards and development of a refereed journal in Applied Computing