

Annual Report of the Publications Board

For the Period July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Submitted by: Jack W. Davidson and Joseph Konstan, co-Chairs
September 30, 2020

I. Strategic Vision & Directions

To support ACM's mission of advancing computing as a science and a profession, the Publications Board focuses on developing, enhancing, and maintaining high-quality publications that disseminate new research, translate research to inform practice, and reflect on practice to inspire innovation in both practice and research. The Publications Board is composed of volunteers from the community working in partnership with and supported by ACM's publications staff, information systems staff, and staff in other areas. Together we oversee ACM's organization-wide publications strategy, policies, and procedures; the ACM Digital Library; and our broad collection of journals, proceedings, magazines, and books.

In Fiscal Year 2020 we focused the Publications Board's activity around six key priorities:

- The release and evaluation of ACM's new Digital Library platform
- The rollout and refinement of ACM's new production workflow, rights management system, and templates
- The development and roll-out of ACM Open, ACM's strategy for transformation to a fully open access model
- Managing the increased level and severity of publication misconduct accusations
- Addressing the "reviewer crisis"—the increased difficulty many of our publications find in obtaining quality reviews
- Operational excellence in the management of our journal portfolio, including evaluation of existing publications and development of new ones

We detail specific activities below. In addition to the key publications priorities, the Publications Board Chairs are focused on volunteer development, including regular renewal of Publications Board membership, development members into leadership positions, and bringing in diverse members from across the field, around the world, and from diverse demographics and experiences.

II. Summary of FY 2019 Major Activities and Actions

The Publications Board, supported by staff and the many volunteers engaged in our activities, has been active in FY20, including:

- **Digital Library** the Publications Board has been active in providing feedback and input to improve DL content, functionality, and interaction. Post-launch, the Board assessed the status of DL metadata and interaction, and brought concerns and recommendations to ACM's President, CEO, and COO leading in part to a presidential task force charged with the first step of assessing and developing a plan for addressing the current shortcomings. The Publications Board has also been working on forward-looking DL issues, including a promised pre-print service (which also includes ongoing discussions with arXiv), and enhancements related to replicability and deposits of code and data.
- **Production Workflow, Rights Management System, and Templates** are areas where substantial changes have long-term benefits (including greater accessibility by users with disabilities and from mobile devices, better separation of content from presentation, and better meta-data capture), but have also caused concerns for many SIGs and their conferences. Publications Board volunteers, together with SIG volunteers, have worked to refine the templates, simplify the process, and provide documentation and support for authors.
- **ACM Open** is an open access subscription model designed in partnership with research libraries and institutions to

provide affordable, predictable pricing for open access publishing. It also represents a path for ACM to become a sustainable fully open access publisher. After substantial groundwork by staff, ACM Open has launched, has signed on many top institutions, and is attracting interest from many more institutions and consortia. Initial success has been encouraging, and we were delighted that the ACM Council approved a target of converting to full open access in five years, along with the directions to invest in the communication and sales effort needed to achieve that goal. In addition to the direct work on ACM Open, we have been working to better understand and document ACM's publication finances to our membership (including our first annual report on such finances in *CACM*) and working with key stakeholders including Coalition S in Europe to ensure that our model achieves the key goals of each stakeholder.

- **Publications Misconduct Accusations** have been increasing, both in number and in severity. The Publications Board handles most cases through well-developed processes of our Ethics and Plagiarism committee which in turn works in coordination with ACM's Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE). This year we have had additional high-profile and complex cases that have warranted convening specialized committees (with additional representation) and hiring of professional investigators and lawyers. We continue to handle such cases carefully while also working on policy changes, communications, and prevention measures to help reduce their incidence.
- **The Reviewer Crisis** has been noted not only by ACM but by peer scholarly society publishers. Reviewers feel overloaded and we hear reports of some journal Associate Editors finding the need to ask ten or more potential reviewers to obtain three reviews. Like others, we have considered various incentives for reviewing (from membership credit to titles and status) but decided to take a fresh look at the problem overall. We have engaged a research firm to survey both actual and potential reviewers in our field to review the actions of peer societies. The task force addressing this topic will be reporting in Fall 2020 and we will explore further directions at that time.
- **Operational Excellence**, particularly in the management of our journal portfolio, is a goal that has led us to significant changes in how we review publications, search for new editors-in-chief, and evaluate proposals. These changes are still in progress, but key elements include targeted joint evaluations of the collection of journals serving a larger community (rather than one-by-one evaluation) and greater agility in partnering with external organizations in launching new publications.

In FY20, the Board approved the following new publications:

- *ACM Games Review: Research and Practice*: Editor-in-Chief Sebastian Deterding (University of York). Approved October 2019.
- *Collective Intelligence* (Co-Owned/Co-Published with SAGE Publications): Editors-in-Chief Jessica Flack (Santa Fe Institute) Panos Ipeirotis (New York University), Scott Page (University of Michigan), and Geoff Mulgan (University College London). Approved June 2020.

III. Basic Information

A. Members of the Publications Board

A list of members of the Publications Board during FY20 is given in Table 1. Three new members joined the Board during FY20.

- Michael A. Heroux (Sandia Labs). Mike is a senior scientist at Sandia Labs and former TOMS EiC. He is also a new member of the NSF Advisory Committee on Cyberinfrastructure.
- Theo Schlossnagle (CTO, Circonus). Theo came through the Practitioner Board and is co-Chair of Queue.

There were five retirements in FY2020: XiangYang Li, Sue Moon, Stephen Spencer, Sharon Oviatt, Nenad Medvidovic

Table 1. Members of the ACM Publications Board with Roles and Appointment Dates

Phoebe Ayers (MIT)	Original appointment: 08/01/17 – 07/31/20 Reappointed 8/1/20 – 6/30/23
Jack W. Davidson (U. of Virginia)	SGB Liaison: 04/01/07 – 06/30/10 Appointed Co-Chair: 7/01/10 – present
Chris Hankin (Imperial College)	Original appointment: 07/16/17 – 06/30/20 Reappointed 7/1/20 – 6/30/23 Appointed co-Chair, Assessment & Search Committee: 07/16/18 – present
Xiang-Yang Li (U. of Science and Technology)	Original appointment: 01/16/18 – 12/31/20
Nenad Medvidovic (USC)	Appointed SGB Liaison: 09/13/18 – 06/30/20
Sue Bok Moon (KAIST School of Computing)	Original appointment: 01/01/18 – 12/31/20 Resigned: August 2019
Joseph Konstan (U. of Minnesota)	SGB Liaison: 07/1/10 – 06/30/13 Appointed Co-Chair: 7/1/13 – present
Tulika Mitra (NUS)	Original appointment: 03/13/19 – 03/12/22 Appointed Co-Chair of the New Publications Committee – 01/08/18 – present
Michael Nelson (Old Dominion University)	Original appointment: 08/01/17 – 07/31/20 Reappointed: 8/1/20 – 6/30/23 Appointed Co-Chair of the Digital Library Committee: 10/01/17 – present
Sharon Oviatt (Monash University)	Original appointment: 10/01/17 – 06/30/20 Appointed Co-Chair of the New Publications Committee: 10/01/17 – 6/30/20
Eugene Spafford (Purdue University)	Original appointment: 01/01/17 – 12/31/19 Reappointed: 01/01/20 – 06/30/23 Appointed Chair of Ethics & Plagiarism Committee: 01/01/17 – present
Stephen Spencer (U. of Washington)	Original appointment: 09/01/15 – 08/31/18 Reappointed: 09/01/18 - 6/30/20 Appointed Co - Chair of Conference Committee: 10/01/17 – 6/30/20
Divesh Srivastava (AT&T Labs)	Original appointment: 07/01/18 – 06/30/21 Appointed Co - Chair of Assessment & Search Committee: 07/01/18 – present
Robert Walker (Kent State University)	Original appointment: 07/01/18 – 06/30/2021 Appointed Co - Chair of Conference Committee: 07/01/18 – present
Julie Williamson (U. of Glasgow)	Original appointment: 08/01/17 – 07/31/20 Appointed Co – Chair of Conference Committee: 07/01/20 – present
Michael A. Heroux (Sandia Labs)	Original appointment: 08/15/2019 – 07/31/2022
Theo Schlossnagle (Circonus)	Original appointment: 01/01/2020 – 12/31/2022

B. Publications Board Meetings & Operations

In FY20, the Publications Board and HQ staff held two in person meetings (October 2019 in Denver, February 2019 in New York), and ten monthly conference calls.

Highlights of the in-person meetings include:

- Extensive discussions leading to the adoption of ACM's Name Change Policy, a significant advance for authors who change their names and wish to update their prior publications to reflect that change.
- Intersociety discussions with AAAI to explore collaboration possibilities.
- Several policy updates to address issues of inappropriate content in ACM Publications, author anonymity, document retention, and pre-publication evaluation.

IV. Committees & Project Updates

A. Conference Committee

Mandate

This Conference Committee considers the ACM's conference publication activities and policies. Working closely with the SGB and HQ staff, the Conference Committee works to improve the workflows associated with conference paper submission, open access options, reviewing, and conference program organization. The committee also considers policies and procedures for new conference artifacts such as videos of presentations, posters, demonstrations, code, and other supplementary materials.

FY20 Activities

The primary activities related to conferences in FY20 were focused on the production process and authoring templates (addressed above). We also reviewed the structure, charge, and composition in FY20 and have made changes going forward into FY21.

Committee Members

Stephen Spencer (co-chair), Robert Walker (co-chair).

B. New Publications Committee

Mandate

The New Publications Committee's primary mandate is to realize the goal of making ACM the preferred publisher in computing through exploration of new publication titles covering the diverse landscape of computing. Towards this goal, the New Publication Committee evaluates submitted proposals for new publications, and the Committee proactively seeks to expand ACM's portfolio by identifying promising new areas and seeking qualified individuals to develop publications in those areas. After development of new title proposals, the committee provides the Publications Board with recommendations and actions regarding the proposal.

FY20 Activities

Co-Chairs Sharon Oviatt and Tulika Mitra and the New Publications Committee evaluated quite a few strong proposals in FY20, with a focus on strong interdisciplinary journals as well as areas where ACM does not have existing publications including AI, ethics, and blockchain. These, and other, areas were identified in the gap analysis project conducted by Greenhouse Associates at the end of 2018. A goal of the NPC in FY20, which will continue through FY21, is to become nimbler in making decisions on new journal proposals and moving them into the launch phase. Towards this end, the co-chairs designed a short pre-proposal template for early exploration stages that complements the detailed final proposal template. Also, in FY20 there was an in-person meeting between AAAI and ACM on opportunities for joint publication initiatives, out of which came a journal proposal on AI, ethics, and societal impact that is currently under consideration by the NPC.

Journals signed:

Collective Intelligence (co-owned and co-published with SAGE Publications)

ACM Games Review: Research and Practice

Current proposals in review are:

ACM Transactions on Multimodal Interaction and Intelligence: Under consideration by NPC

AAAI-ACM Journal on the Ethics and Societal Impact of AI: Under consideration by NPC

Distributed ledger technologies: Conducting search for EiC

ACM COMPASS to transition to PACM-style journal: Under consideration by NPC

Assured Computing Journal: On hold as an EiC could not be identified

Committee Members

Tulika Mitra (co-chair), Sharon Oviatt (co-chair), Phil Bernstein, Somesh Jha, Sven Koenig, Xiang-Yang Li, Aidong Zhang, Achi Dosanjh (up to April), Ashley Petrylak (starting in April), Scott Delman, Laura Lander, Jack Davidson, Joe Konstan.

C. Digital Library Committee

Mandate

The Digital Library Committee is charged with strategy and oversight of the Digital Library, including services, features, and content.

FY20 Activities

The single largest activity for the DL committee has been the migration to the Atypon-based DLnext platform. Additional activities included work on the production process and templates, and refinements to the replicability badging scheme.

An additional step of note was the temporary opening of the DL in recognition of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Committee Members

Michael Nelson (chair), Alexandra Dolan-Mescal, Anna Perricci, Asad Ali, Ashley Petrylak, Brianna Blaser, Bruce Childers, Cathy Marshall, Cliff Lampe, Clyde Lee Giles, Craig Rodkin, Dan Wu, Daqing He, Diane Kelly, Geneva Henry, Grigori Fursin, Jack Davidson, Joe Konstan, Jose Borbinha, Julie Williamson, Marcos André Gonçalves, Martin Klein, Michael A Heroux, Michela Taufer, Nicola Ferro, Phoebe Ayers, Richard Furuta, Robert McDonald, Ron Boisvert, Scott Delman, J Stephen Downie, Stephen Spencer, Wayne Graves

D. Assessment and Search Committee

Mandate

The Assessment and Search (A&S) Committee members assess journals towards the end of each EIC term and make recommendations to the Publications Board regarding reappointments and new searches. Assessments are based on survey feedback from current EICs, SIG Chairs, Associate Editors, and other stakeholders, as well as quantitative data on the journal submission and publication pipeline. When a new search is conducted, the A&S committee members consult with stakeholders to identify a search committee chair and potential committee members, and serve as liaison between the search committee and the Publications Board.

FY20 Activities

In FY20, the Assessment and Search Committee completed assessments and searches for fifteen journals. Seven new journals EiCs were appointed and eight existing EiCs were reappointed.

New EiC Appointments FY20*		
Journal	EiC Name	Term Start
JETC	Ramesh Karri	8/1/2019
CSUR	Albert Zomaya	12/1/2019

TOCT	Ryan O'Donnell	12/1/2019
ACM Books	Marta Kwiatkowska	12/1/2019
ACM Books	Charu Aggarwal	12/1/2019
Interactions	Mikale Wiberg/Alex Taylor	3/1/2020
TECS	Tulika Mitra	4/1/2020
TOMPECS	Leana Golubchik	4/1/2020
TACO	David Kaeli	5/1/2020
TODAES	Sharon Hu	6/1/2020
Reappointments FY20		
JEA	Gonzalo Navarro	7/1/2019
TOS	Sam Noh	7/31/2019
TOPLAS	Andrew Myers	8/31/2019
DTRAP	Leigh Metcalf/Arun Lakhotia	9/1/2019
POMACS	Augustin Chaintreau	11/15/2019
TSC	Kevin Crowston	5/31/2020
JDIQ	Tiziana Catarci	6/1/2020
PACMPL	Phil Wadler	11/15/2020
<i>*Note: Some terms began in FY 2021, but the assessments and searches were conducted in FY20</i>		

Committee Members

Chris Hankin (Imperial College London, co-chair), Divesh Srivastava (AT&T Labs-Research, co-chair), Holly Rushmeier (Yale University), Adrian Scoica (Google Switzerland), Josh Tenenberg (University of Washington), Louiqa Raschid (University of Maryland), Jack Davidson (University of Virginia), Joe Konstan (University of Minnesota), Laura Lander (ACM Journals Manager), Diane Crawford (ACM Deputy Director, Magazines), Scott Delman (ACM Director of Publications)

E. Ethics & Plagiarism Committee

Mandate

The ACM Publications Board's Ethics and Plagiarism Committee handles all plagiarism cases and issues dealing with professional ethics in publishing including conflicts of interest, authorship, and allegations of research misconduct. The Committee develops policies and practices to ensure the integrity of the scholarly record. The Committee places the investigation of claims of plagiarism at the highest priority for resolution and action. The basics are outlined here <http://www.acm.org/publications/policies/plagiarism-overview> and specific details of all aspects of reporting and investigating claims, and penalties for plagiarism are [found here](#).

FY20 Activities

In addition to handling numerous plagiarism cases and a case involving an allegation of data fabrication, the Committee has developed a conflict-of-interest policy regarding review and processes and updated the plagiarism policy.

YEAR	Ethics Opened	Plagiarism Opened	Plagiarism and Ethics Opened	Ethics Closed	Plagiarism Closed	Plagiarism and Ethics Closed
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2016	2	0	0	0	0	0
2017	8	10	1	7	5	1
2018	6	7	2	4	9	1
2019	12	26	3	10	19	1
2020	12	18	6	8	20	9

Committee Members

Andrew Adams, Jack Davidson, Scott Delman, Simson Garfinkel, Diana Kelley, Joe Konstan, Michael Kirkpatrick, Eugene Spafford (chair), Stephen Spencer, Julie Williamson, Jenny Waycott.

F. PACM Steering Committee

Mandate

The PACM Steering Committee is charged with oversight and operation of the PACM Series. In particular, the SC is charged with promoting the PACM Series, soliciting and reviewing proposals for new Titles, as well as making recommendations to the Publications Board on all suggested modifications to existing Titles.

FY20 Activities

The PACM SC finalized (with Laura Lander) documentation adapting EiC assessment forms to the PACM setting and updated its documentation describing the process for appointment and reappointment of PACM EiCs. PACM EiC’s nominations are put forward by the advisory board of the PACM journal and sent to the PACM SC for its review and recommendation, and upon a positive recommendation by the PACM SC forwarded to the Pubs Board for its official approval.

PACM EiC Rotations

- PACM HCI: After a couple of unsuccessful attempts, the PACM HCI search for a new EiC successfully identified Jeff Nichols as the new EiC for the journal. This allowed Clifford Lampe to step down, and the appointment was approved during the June 2020 Pubs Board call (though I did not receive an official notification).
- PACM IMWUT: Gregory Abowd stepped down and was replaced by Silvia Santini who was officially approved by the Pubs Board in September 2019 (I received a copy of the official appointment letter).
- PACM POMACS: Augustin Chaintreau had been reappointed for a second term. However, he decided to step down as he was elected as SIGMETRICS chair and did not feel he could combine both positions. A search for a replacement is currently under way, but none has been identified yet.

PACM Evaluations

Following the first round of PACM journal assessments in 2019, activities centered on addressing a few problems that surfaced with individual conferences. The main challenge of the PACM model is ensuring that the PACM guidelines are consistently applied across journals and conferences. Journals that follow a more “centralized” model are typically better equipped than those that operate as a loose umbrella for feed conferences. The latter are typically the ones for which problems are identified with individual conferences.

A case in point is PACM HCI where the I3G conference did not fully comply with the PACM guidelines and addressing those issues required several iterations that were made more difficult by delays in initial communications between the journal and the PACM SC (the issue at stake was publication of short papers in a separate proceedings of the conference and the possibility of confusion with PACM CGIT papers).

PACM Expansions

- PACM CGIT added the HPG conference that was finally approved after multiple rounds of iterations with the PACM SC to ensure that its process was consistent with the PACM guidelines, including providing enough time for revisions. This latter part is often the biggest stumbling blocks for conferences that opt not to also adopt multiple deadlines when moving to a PACM publication model.
- PACM CGIT proposed the addition of a SIGGRAPH digital art issue with the SIGGRAPH Art Papers. The proposal was reviewed by the PACM SC that was generally positive but wanted to see more details on how revisions would be handled as the proposal was short on details on this issue. The ball is back in the PACM CGIT camp, but in spite of several nudges there seems to be some delays in putting a

response together.

- PACM HCI proposed the addition of the ISS conference that was reviewed by the PACM SC that recommended approval after a few iterations aimed at clarifying the revision process and how acceptance decisions were made. After some initial delays, the Pubs Board ultimately finalized the approval of adding the ISS conference to PACM HCI.
- PAM HCI recently submitted a request to add a relatively “young” conference at the intersection of HCI and games, CHI PLAY, and after a couple of iterations to refine the proposal, it was recently sent for review to the PACM SC.
- There was only one new proposal for a PACM journal that came from the SIGCOMM CoNEXT conference. It was evaluated by the APCM SC that expressed some concerns about the proposed expansion path for the conference. The feedback was sent to the proposers, who started addressing them (they are exploring adding the IMC conference to their proposal). However, the COVID-19 crisis has delayed the submission of an updated proposal.

Areas for Improvements

There were a few instances of miscommunication and/or delayed communications between the PACM SC and ACM. Those resulted in some decisions being delayed or called for last minute adjustments to situations that would have been easier to deal with if they had been acted upon in a more timely fashion. Those issues are likely in part due to the added stress caused by COVID-19, but there is room for improvement to ensure more systematic communications.

Looking Ahead

The PACM SC consists of four members and a chair. Two of those members have expressed the desire to step down (Gregory Abowd and August Chaintreau who serve as representatives of PACM journals) and they should be replaced. Replacements should come from current or past EiCs from other PACM journals. It may also be good to contemplate identifying a new chair for the PACM SC.

Committee Members

Roch Guerin (chair), Gregory Abowd, Augustin Chaintreau, Koen De Bosschere, Mashhuda Glencross

G. Business Working Group

Mandate

The Business Working Group’s (BWG) mandate is to ensure the continued financial stability of ACM’s Publications program and its continued support of ACM activities. Toward that goal, the Business Working Group advises on strategies related to the financial aspects of ACM’s publication program, including operational costs, revenue structures, and the funding levels of new initiatives.

FY20 Activities

The major activities of the BWG in FY20 included: (a) developing a response to a member petition seeking open access and greater financial transparency; (b) refinement of the ACM Open model; (c) conducting and reporting on a comprehensive review of ACM Publications finances; and (d) evaluating business cases for a variety of potential joint-publication arrangements with external publishers and societies.

Committee Members

Joe Konstan (chair), Jack Davidson, Joshua Horowitz, Darren Ramdin, Pat Ryan, Scott Delman, Tony Wong, Liz Zhang

V. ACM Publications Portfolio

ACM is currently the publisher of 93 active periodicals, including 57 journals and transactions, 7 magazines, 29 newsletters, and a series of advanced-level books called *ACM Books*. Total submissions (original and revised) to ACM journals in FY20 was 10,972 compared to 8,862 in FY19.

During FY20, ACM added 636 volumes of conference and related workshop proceedings to its portfolio; this included 277 volumes added to ACM’s *International Conference Proceedings Series (ICPS)*, a 2% decrease from FY19.

ACM Books launched in 2014, with Ebooks available for both institutional and individual purchase, and print-on-demand books available for sale to individuals. ACM Books published six new titles in FY20, and signed publishing agreements for six additional titles (both the same as FY19).

VI. ACM Digital Library

While ACM continues to print many of its journals and other publications, the ACM Digital Library (DL) continues to be the primary channel for delivering and reading ACM publications worldwide. In FY20, there were 28.5 million full-text downloads from the ACM DL, an increase of 56%. This large increase is likely due to both the transition in January 2020 to Atypon's Literatum platform, and ACM decided to open the entire DL for free from April 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. ACM staff estimates between 3-5 million users. During FY20, 34,971 full-text articles were added to the ACM DL, bringing ACM's total DL holdings to 550,971 full-text articles. Of the full-text articles added to the DL in FY20, it is estimated that approximately 29,156 of these are full-length peer-reviewed research articles.

ACM's *Guide to Computing Literature* is integrated with the ACM Digital Library, providing an increasingly comprehensive and freely available index to the top-tier literature of computing. During FY20, approximately 55,000 works were added to the bibliographic database, bringing the total Guide coverage to 2.95 million works. This is about 45% of the normal number we add to the Guide as a result of the transition to Literatum processing being slower than anticipated. Capturing article references in the database is important, because these references are necessary to develop robust citation statistics. ACM continues to expand the number of articles from which this data is captured.

Recent growth is as follows:

Year	Total References	Resolved in Guide
2008	6.3M	2.2M
2009	7.8M	2.8M
2010	9.8M	3.4M
2011	13.1M	4.7M
2012	16.8M	6.0M
2013	18.9M	6.7M
2014	20.8M	8.4M
2015	23.5M	9.2M
2016	25.9M	10.4M
2017	28.8M	11.4M
2018	31.6M	12.5M
2019	33.0M	13.0M
2020	34.0M	13.0M

As one of the leading full-text and bibliographic databases of scholarly information for the computing community, the DL is widely accessible to individuals and institutions around the world. Out of ACM's roughly 95,000 individual members (including students), approximately 25,800 subscribed to the DL in FY20 (a decrease of 4%)

The majority of ACM DL revenues continue to come from institutional subscriptions. At the close of FY20, the ACM DL is available at roughly 2,800 institutions around the world, including 190 government and corporate institutions. Mature markets in the United States, Europe, and East Asia continue to drive steady growth from increased institutional participation and annually increased renewal rates, and significant new business growth came from a new national license in Algeria as well as from new multinational corporate subscriptions.

With guidance from the international ACM membership community and the cooperation of academic libraries, ACM launched its transformative Open Access licensing model, ACM OPEN, in January 2020 with the signing of 3-year license agreements with the University of California System, Carnegie Mellon University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Iowa State University. The ACM OPEN license provides an institution's corresponding authors the ability to publish an unlimited number

of Open Access research articles in the DL and full institutional access to the rest of the DL’s subscription contents. To date, nearly 30 libraries have signed new ACM OPEN licenses, with many more expected to join in the coming months. ACM continues to credit net revenues from article-based Open Access fees to academic libraries renewing their DL subscriptions the following year.

VII. ACM Magazines

ACM publishes seven magazine titles (<https://dl.acm.org/mags.cfm>). In FY20, content from ACM’s magazines generated a major number of downloads from the ACM Digital Library. Moreover, all print magazines include a Digital Edition as well as mobile apps that offer magazine content on a variety of devices, offering additional search-and-save options and bringing the content to audiences far beyond the ACM community.

Principal among the magazines is ACM’s flagship, *Communications of the ACM*. The monthly flagship consistently records over 2.5 million downloads annually from the ACM Digital Library. In addition, *Communication’s* online presence shares content on a global scale. In FY20, traffic on cacm.acm.org site grew to 1.45 million users and to over 3.4 million pageviews. Its mobile site recorded over 347,500 users and 785,400 pageviews, an increase of 6.5% and 5.7% respectfully. *Communications* regional special sections continue to garner a strong following. These sections spotlight technologies and research emanating from particular parts of the world; contributors to the sections are some of the leading voices in those regions. In FY20, special sections highlighted the technology communities within the regions of India and Southeast Asia/Oceania.

Other ACM magazines also continue to draw impressive, expansive audiences online. In FY20, *Ubiquity*, an online-only publication dedicated to advancing critical analysis and commentary on issues linked to the IT profession, logged over 290,500 pageviews and over 268,300 users. *eLearn* magazine—ACM’s online publication for e-learning research and practice—continues to attract educators and training professionals from around the world. In FY20, eLearn’s website recorded almost 267,000 pageviews and 241,600 users.

Interactions, ACM’s magazine serving the disciplines within human-computer interaction, recorded almost 200,000 downloads, 325,920 pageviews (up 6.6% from FY19), and 171,532 users (up 7.6%). The ACM Publications Board unanimously approved the appointments of Alex Taylor, Daniela Rosner, and Mikael Wiberg as EICs of *Interactions* in FY20. In March, the co-editors were quick to respond to the COVID-19 crisis with a new editorial platform. They issued an invitation to makers, designers, and writers to share observations, ideas, and experiences in blog form that address the pressing matters we face in this pandemic. The response was immediate and extraordinary. The *Interactions* website was reconfigured to spotlight the blogs as they arrived. And in late June a special issue of *Interactions* “Design in the Pandemic” was issued (<https://interactions.acm.org/archive/toc/july-august-2020>), featuring articles that cut across many of the problems facing a broad range of areas, including education, design, sustainability, charities, textiles, family life, and healthcare workers. It was the first ACM publication to tackle the disruption created by COVID-19 as it was unfolding.

VIII. ACM Books

The ACM Books program started in 2014 in response to a lack of moderately priced, high-quality computer science books caused by consolidation among commercial publishers. The series focuses on four types of books: graduate-level textbooks, practitioner-oriented professional books, research monographs in established and emerging fields, and books devoted to the history and social impact of computing.

Six new ACM Books titles were added to Collection II in FY20, bringing the total in the collection to eight. Several notable titles were published including:

- *Concurrency: the Works of Leslie Lamport*, by Dahlia Malkhi (27,506 downloads)
- *Providing Sound Foundations for Cryptography: On the Work of Shafi Goldwasser and Silvio Micali*, by Oded Goldreich (12 citations)
- *Semantic Web for the Working Ontologist: Effective Modeling for Linked Data, RDFS, and OWL*, by Dean Allemang, Jim Hendler, Fabien Gandon (Third Edition)

More than 200 ACM Books collections have been sold to institutions, with individual titles being made available to consumers via major online retailers. All ACM Books content is also available to ACM members for an annual fee. There are currently 767 ACM member subscriptions to the ACM Books program. In late 2019, Marta Kwiatkowska (University of Oxford) and

Charu Aggarwal (IBM) joined Sanjiva Prasad (Indian Institute of Technology) as co-Editors-in-Chief of ACM Books.

IX. International Conference Proceeding Series (ICPS)

The ACM International Conference Proceedings (ICPS) continues to grow at a steady rate. We have seen an increasing number of repeat applications for conferences and a few new conferences which were previously published by other organizations; these are good indicators of the satisfaction of the community with the ICPS service. ACM has evaluated the ICPS business model to ensure the program is (self-)sustainable. In order to become more transparent regarding our pricing model, we published the itemized costs to publish a proceedings volume in the program.

ICPS produced 277 proceedings volumes and 10,873 articles from 50 countries outside the United States in FY20. In addition to the 277 published volumes an additional 98 were rejected. This rejection rate of 26% is higher than the 20% rejection rate in FY19.

X. Progress toward full adaptation of TAPS by all conferences

FY20 marks the second year that TAPS (The ACM Production System) has been in existence and available for conferences to adopt. There was increased adoption of TAPS by ACM conferences, and TAPS was extended to the ICPS conference program as well. Starting in mid-March, all approved ICPS conferences use the new production workflow and TAPS for the production of their proceedings, and this has resulted in a steady increase in the overall volume of papers produced by TAPS.

Although it is important to increase the adoption of TAPS with the conferences, it has also been essential to do this in a controlled manner as the production workflow and system are still relatively new. Vital feedback from both the conference organizers and authors led to the creation of a new submission template (courtesy of Julie Williamson) as well as several key improvements to TAPS (thanks to the consistent and detailed feedback from Stephen Spencer.) Also, a strong effort was made this year to make the user interface of TAPS accessible, not just its output. Under the guidance of Shari Trewin and ASSETS, we have taken initial steps toward this goal, and will build on this further in the next year. Their contributions, as well as the various feedback received from others, has greatly improved TAPS and its workflow and had thus put it in a strong position (from a technical standpoint) for wider adoption in the next year ahead.

The challenges to increasing conferences' adoption of TAPS is two-pronged: 1. Communicating early enough in the process with the conferences in order to make the adoption of TAPS an option; and 2. Convincing conferences to switch from their known way of producing their proceedings to switching over to TAPS which is a new process for them. For the conferences on the fence about "taking the leap," some were willing to do a hybrid process this past year where they retained their traditional process, but agreed to work in parallel in a test environment setup in TAPS to become familiar with the new workflow with the intention of adopting it the next year. This has had positive results, and we are currently working on the next phase to build on this progress and reach more conferences.