ACM-W 2018–2019

Association for Computing Machinery
Women in Computing
FROM THE CHAIR

Celebrating, supporting, and advocating for women in computing is the mission and motivating force behind the work of ACM-W. In this inaugural annual report we hope to show our many members and supporters the impact ACM-W has had worldwide this past year. The words and photos herein convey the exciting and vibrant nature of our work. Global growth has been and will continue to be a primary focus of ACM-W. In recent months our regional committees in Europe, India, North America have been joined by new groups in China (now an official committee) and Asia Pacific (a committee in the making). In the coming year, our goal is to expand into South America where much work on behalf of women in computing is already happening in places such as Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Peru. I am honored to be involved in the success of this organization. I hope that after reading this story of 2018–2019, you will join us in this fulfilling work.

—Jodi Tims
Northeastern University, San Francisco, CA, USA

ACM-W Mission Statement

ACM-W supports, celebrates, and advocates internationally for the full engagement of women in all aspects of the computing field, providing a wide range of programs and services to ACM members and working in the larger community to advance the contributions of technical women.

Programmatic Impact 2018–2019

CELEBRATIONS

- 23 Celebrations—10 in North America, 9 in Europe, 3 in Asia, and 1 in South America
- Over 5,000 attendees
- Facebook likes—main page (over 4,300), student chapters, celebrations
- Newsletter subscribers—over 40,000.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- 110 applications
- 30 awards—20 undergrads, 3 master’s, 7 Ph.D.

CHAPITERS

Student chapters

- 30 new chapters July 1, 2018—June 30, 2019—15 Asia, 14 North America, 1 Africa
- 172 total student chapters as of June 30, 2019—119 North America, 43 Asia, 1 South America, 7 Europe, 2 Africa

Professional chapters

- 1 new chapter July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019—in Europe
- 16 total professional chapters as of June 30, 2019—3 North American, 6 Europe, 2 Africa, 5 Asia
ACM-W Celebrations

A total of 23 ACM-W Celebrations were held from October 2018 through July 2019, with a total of 5000 attendees. The events were held in 8 US states and 14 countries around the world. The year began with womENcourage 2018 in Belgrade, Serbia and ended with celebrations in Cyprus (the ACM Cyprus Celebration of Women in Maker Cultures) and India (the All India Celebration of Women in Computing, an ACM Celebration Event). Celebration events all include speakers and presenters who focus on celebrating and supporting women in computing at every stage of their academic or professional career. Many celebrations also include hands-on activities such as hackathons and workshops. Funding from Microsoft provided $3000 for each event, and ACM funding provided another $3,000.

Professional Chapters

Professional Chapters are one of the newest ACM-W activity, and we anticipate this will contribute significantly to the development of ACM and ACM-W as a career-long community for women in computing. Since the first professional chapter started in 2014, there are now 16 professional chapters globally. As this effort continues to grow, chapters are carrying out a range of activities that include organizing of ACM Celebrations, summer coding camps, and involvement with local outreach projects.

ACM-W Student Chapters

Woohoo!!! We chartered 27 new student chapters this year, bringing us to 172 chapters around the globe. They use a new ACM-W Student Chapters Slack channel and engage in a monthly competition on the ACM-W Student Chapters Facebook page that encourages sharing between chapters. New chapters come into a community that gladly shares ideas for activities and provides encouragement to chapters as they ramp up.
ACM-W Student Chapters organize activities at their universities worldwide about women in computing to provide a platform for networking, connecting with leaders of the field.

Scholarship Committee

This year, ACM-W received 110 applications from undergraduate and graduate students in CS around the world to attend research conferences. With an average award of $1,000, generous funding from Google and Oracle made it possible for us to send 30 students to conferences: 20 undergraduates, 3 masters students, and 7 Ph.D. students. In addition, students attending conferences sponsored by an ACM SIG frequently receive free conference registration and a conference mentor.

“Before CHI 2019, I had never considered research as a path for me after graduation. … However, seeing the interesting work presented at the conference, I want to explore the possibility of doing research in HCI in a graduate institution.”
—Sofia Ayuso
BS, Bucknell University

“Thanks to ACM-W for this wonderful chance to meet and be part of the CHI community. I met a bunch of inspiring people, lucky to have a talk with some of them.”
—Roisatul Azizah
MS, Uppsala University

“Participating in the conference [TEI] was a great learning experience and a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow inspiring colleagues. I met in person people who I only read about before, and had meaningful and insightful conversations.”
—Ella Dagan Peled
PhD, UC Santa Cruz
International ACM-W

NORTH AMERICA
Changes resulting from ACM-W’s recent organizational restructuring will enable us to better accomplish global growth and strategic planning—including the creation of ACM-W North America. This committee will oversee ACM-W activity in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Monica McGill, Associate Professor at Knox College, has been named the inaugural chair and will be filling committee positions during the first months of this fiscal year.

EUROPE
As the oldest of the ACM-W continent-specific committees, ACM-W Europe, hosted several exciting events this year. Our latest and greatest womENcourage was held in Belgrade, Serbia on October 3–5, 2018 and was attended by awesome and engaged students, faculty and industry professionals. We would love to see all of you at womENcourage 2019 in Rome, Italy, on September 16–18.

ACM-W Europe runs a blog that includes a monthly interview of a noteworthy European women in Computer Science. The Rise&Wise community involves experienced volunteers and newcomers. It is open to anyone who wishes to represent ACM-W and promote its cause. It is a flexible way to become an active member.

INDIA
ACM-W India is a vibrant and growing community. During the past year, ACM-W India held four Celebration events, hosted a summer school for high school girls, ran four hackathons, and participated in GHC-India. In 2018, a team from India attended the Grad Cohort workshop and subsequently were successful in holding Grad Cohort workshops in India in both 2018 and 2019. There are currently 38 active student chapters, 14 of which were chartered in the past year.

“In our work, we harness the talent and the enthusiasm of those who wish to spread the spirit of community and support for women in computing. Our volunteers generously contribute time to organize activities that promote achievements of women in computing and enable them to share experiences, acquire skills, and establish collaborations. Helping and supporting each other is the way we aim to increase the participation and impact of women in computing and, through that, shape the future of our societies in the digital revolution.”

—Natasa Milic-Frayling, Chair, ACM-W
Partnerships

**PARTNERSHIP IN GENDER GAP IN SCIENCE PROJECT**

ACM-W is a supporting partner of the global Gender Gap in Science project. The three year project “A Global Approach to the Gender Gap in Mathematical, Computing, and Natural Sciences: How to Measure It, How to Reduce It?” completed its tasks, including collecting 32,000 data items using the survey of mathematical, computing and natural scientists; joint data-backed study on publications; and preparing a database of good practices for girls, young women, parents, and organizations. The final conference for the Gender Gap Project will be in Trieste, Italy, on 4–8 November 2019 with Tracy Camp of CRA-W as the keynote speaker.

**ACM-W WORKSHOP IN CHENGDU, CHINA**

To grow ACM-W’s reach in Eastern Asia, ACM-W sponsored a two-day workshop in Chengdu, China in May. Participants came from Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand. The workshop included presentations about ACM-W programs and other women in computing activity underway in several of the countries represented. The group is working toward the launch of a new regional committee (ACM-W Asia Pacific) sometime during 2019–2020.

**PARTNERSHIP WITH CRA-W FOR THE GRAD COHORT PROJECT**

CRA-W Grad Cohort workshops have been impactful in increasing the number of women that persist to completion of a Ph.D. program. Students in their first three years of graduate school meet for two days with senior computing-related researchers and professionals, building mentoring relationships and developing peer networks that form the basis for ongoing activities and support throughout their graduate career. With a goal of spreading this successful program beyond the United States, ACM-W funds attendance at a workshop by teams of faculty who are interested in launching similar events in their own region and language. Since this program started in 2017, thirteen groups have participated and five events were held in Spain, India (two workshops), Ireland and Greece.

**ACM-W AT GHC**

The annual Grace Hopper Celebration (GHC) is the single largest women in computing event, drawing over 20,000 attendees each year. ACM-W participates in GHC in several ways. Our volunteers can be found in the exhibition hall, distributing information about our organization and greeting the many ACM-W student chapter members who attend the conference. Along with our partners at CRA-WP and NCWIT, we hold a session that provides an opportunity for students, faculty, and industry professionals to learn about our organizations and about effective practices for addressing issues related to women in computing. ACM-W also hosts a luncheon for our volunteers and representatives from our partner organizations. During the closing session of GHC, ACM-W gets “main stage” visibility when the chair presents the ACM Student Research Competition awards.

**2018–2019 Resulting Events**

**SPAIN**—First Barcelona Grad Cohort Workshop was held on October 18 and 19, 2018: fib.upc.edu/en/news/barcelona-grad-cohort-workshop-2018

**SECOND INDIA GRAD COHORT WORKSHOP** was held on July 6 and 7, 2019: acm-grad-cohort-2019.webnode.com/

**IRELAND**—CITAdvance: citadvance.github.io/

**GREECE**—1st Summit on Gender Equality in Computing, June 2019: gec19.athenarc.gr
ACM-W Athena Lecturer

The 2019 ACM Athena Lecturer is Dr. Elisa Bertino, the Samuel Conte Professor of Computer Science at Purdue University, where she also head the Cyber Space Security Lab. She held positions in industry, including the IBM Almaden Research Center, and academia, most notably at the University of Milan, before joining Purdue University in 2004. Dr. Bertino received her PhD in Computer Science from the University of Pisa. Dr. Bertino is recognized as one of the top data management and data security experts in the world, and has made contributions to data security and privacy in many different contexts including context-based access control; digital identity management; data integrity; Internet of Things and sensor network security; secure and privacy-preserving provenance; privacy preserving analytics; protection from insider threats; and cloud security. Additionally, Dr. Bertino has been a strong advocate for women in computer science: 16 of the 35 PhD students she has mentored are women. To address the ongoing gender imbalance in the cybersecurity field, Dr. Bertino recently co-founded (with Danfeng Yao) the Workshop for Women in Cybersecurity (CyberW).

ACM-W Rising Star Award

Started in 2019, the Rising Star Award was made possible through generous funding provided by 2018 ACM Athena Lecturer Award recipient, Andrea Goldsmith. The award recognizes a woman whose early-career research has had significant impact on the computing discipline, as measured by frequent citation of the work, creation of a new research area, a high degree of technology transfer and/or other positive influence. The Rising Star Award will be given for the first time in the 2019–2020 academic year.

Dr. Andrea Goldsmith is the Stephen Harris Professor in the School of Engineering at Stanford University. She co-founded and served as Chief Technical Officer of Plume Wi-Fi and of Quantenna, and she currently serves on the corporate or technical advisory boards of Crown Castle Inc., Interdigital Corp., Sequans, Quantenna and Cohere. Goldsmith received her PhD, MS and BS degrees in Electrical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. Her award included a citation: “For contributions to the theory and practice of adaptive wireless communications and sustained translation of theoretical results into commercial technologies and industry standards.”
ACM-W Leadership and Volunteers

2019 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

JODI TIMS, Northeastern University, San Francisco, CA, USA, Chair
REYYAN AYFER, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey, Vice Chair
VALERIE BARR, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA, USA, Past Chair
WENDY POWLEY, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON, CA, Celebrations Chair
YUQING MELANIE WU, Pomona College, Claremont, CA, USA, Communications Chair
RACHELLE KRISTOF HIPPLER, Baldwin Wallace University, Berea, OH, USA, Professional Chapters Co-Chair
LAURA SPENCER, Ultimate Software, Weston, FL, USA, Professional Chapters Co-Chair

VIVIANA BONO, University of Turin, Turin, Italy, Scholarships Chair
Z SWEEDYK, Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, CA, USA, Student Chapters Chair
PRIYA CHAWLA, Northrup Grumman Corp., Baltimore, MD, Next Generation Chair
ARUQUIA PEIXOTO, CEFET/RJ, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, SIG Liaison
CINDY TUCKER, Bluegrass Community College, Lexington, KY, USA, Community College Chair
ARATI DIXIT, Pune University, Pune, India, ACM-W India Chair
NATASA MILIC-FRAYLING, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK, ACM-W Europe Chair

OUR VOLUNTEERS

ACM-W depends on the numerous volunteers who contribute to the administration, projects, and activities of the organization. There is no way we could possibly list all of the people who contribute every year to chapters, Celebrations, and other ACM-W activities!!! Nonetheless, we are deeply grateful to all of the subcommittee members, Celebrations coordinators, chapter leaders and faculty advisors, and the many other volunteers who contribute to the success of ACM-W activity worldwide. We also owe a big THANK YOU to the ACM headquarters staff for their steadfast support.

ACM-W 2018–2019 Project Expenditures

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<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Celebrations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Chapters</td>
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<td>Scholarships</td>
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<td>International growth and activity</td>
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ACM-W thanks our industry partners for their contributions

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<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>2018–2019 Donation</th>
<th>Project Supported</th>
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<tr>
<td>Google</td>
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<td>Microsoft</td>
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<td>Celebrations</td>
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<td>Oracle Academy</td>
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<td>Scholarships</td>
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THE IMPACT OF PARTNER SUPPORT

- Every $1,000 enables one additional scholarship to be awarded
- Every $6,000 provides seed money for one additional Celebration
- To become a supporting partner, contact jodi.tims@northeastern.edu