Volunteerism

This session is about opportunities for volunteer activities that can help to advance your career and broaden your professional network, both within your own university and within the profession. Also discussed will be strategies for gaining recognition for your accomplishments and for helping others to be recognized.
Volunteerism

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Volunteerism (Tracy)

- Conferences
  - MobiCom, MobiHoc, GHC, CCWIC
  - lots of TPCs

- ACM
  - SIGMOBILE
  - Distinguished Lecturer
  - ACM-W
  - Gender Task Force
Volunteerism (Tracy)

• NSF
  – NOSS, DOLCE
  – Topical workshops
  – lots of review panels
  – Rotator considered

• Editorial Boards
  – IEEE TMC, Ad Hoc Networks, Pervasive Computing
  – CRAWDAD, Engineering Pathways

• Visible Projects
  – N2Women
  – CRA-W DMP (D-REU)
Volunteerism (Tracy)

- **Institution**
  - Associate Director CARDI (research center) **collaborations**
  - Female Faculty Coordinator **passion**
  - Presidential Search Committee **visibility, hobnob, learn**
  - Graduate Council **visibility, impact**
  - Awards Committee **impact**
  - Compensation Committee **impact**

- **Graduate Director** **visibility, impact**
- **Undergraduate Committee (member and chair)** **impact**
- Lots of faculty searches (member and chair) **impact**
- Lots of other minor departmental committees **somebody**
PROS: Why do it?

Because it’s good for the community!
PROS: Why do it?

Make national/international contacts
– Meet interesting people and travel
– Meet potential collaborators
– Get inspired
CONS: Downsides?

Added TIME/TRAVEL commitment

– Time away from teaching/research
– Time away from family
A Few Tips

How to get invited?

– Volunteer yourself
– Ask friends to volunteer you
– Network, network, network, repeat
– Sell yourself to boss and others
Volunteerism (Dona)

• Conferences
  – SCxy Conference Series: High-Performance Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis
  – ISC Conference Series

• Advisory Committees
  – DOE, NSF, DOD, IBM, Council on Competitiveness

• Professional Boards
  – Civilian Research and Development Foundation

• Community Service
  – Cray Award Committee, Sid Fernbach Award Committee, Expanding Your Horizons, Go Figure Math Competition sponsor
Volunteerism (Dona)

• Institution
  – Associate Director Leadership
  – Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC bid team key personnel
  – Screening Committees for Senior Management Positions
  – Institutional Roles on Workforce and Communications Working Group, Performance Assurance Board, and Strategic Programs
  – Co-Chaired 1) Aurora Partnerships and Relationships Committee, and 2) Employee Survey Action “Pay, Benefits, and Reards”
  – Sandia National Laboratory: Nuclear Weapons Policy Board, Nuclear Weapons Strategic Business Unit Program Director, Supercomputer Consolidation Project
  – Founding member of the ASCI leadership team
PROS: Why do it?

Learn to lead
  – Personal growth
  – Make tough decisions
PROS: Why do it?

Personal satisfaction
– Contribute to profession outside own institution
– Good for annual and promotion reviews
– Share experiences and skills that benefit others
– Get away from, at least for a little while, the local politics that may be brewing at home
CONS: Downsides?

Good volunteer $\rightarrow$ get more requests
- Easy to over-commit
- Need to learn to say NO
CONS: Downsides?

The ‘we need a girl on the committee’ syndrome
A Few Tips

Select your activities carefully

– Only do what is personally rewarding/satisfying
– Build track record with conference X
– Build track record with SIG y or ORG z

If say ‘yes’, need to do it well
Volunteerism (Renée)

- **ACM/SIGCSE**
  - Member of ACM and SIGCSE since 1992.
  - SIGCSE treasurer since 2007, member-at-large 2003-2007
- **IEEE-CS**
  - Curriculum oversight committee co-chair, since 2007
- **Computer Science Education journal**
  - Co-editor, 2000-2007
  - Special issue editor, 1998
- **Computer Science Education Links**, 1995-1999
Volunteerism (Renée)

• NSF Proposal reviewer
• Conferences
  – SIGCSE conference co-chair, 2003; program co-chair, 2002; BOF organizer, 1996
  – ITiCSE conference program co-chair, 1999
  – CSEE&T student volunteers organizer, 2008
• Institutional
  – Director, Discovery Informatics degree program
  – Advise UPE student chapter
  – Chaired campus-wide Academic Standards committee
PROS: Why do it?

Effect change

– Opportunity to have an impact
– Opportunity to make things better
PROS: Why do it?

Gain prestige and PR for you and your institution
CONS: Downsides?

Service not always appreciated

![Customer service rating with 'Excellent' checked and 'Poor' unchecked](image)
A Few Tips

Be effective

– Present work internally
– Present work externally
– Be a problem solver
– Work with others outside your institution
– Contribute at national/international levels
Pay it Forward

- Nominate, promote, and invite others
- Connect others with senior people (and management)