Activities of the CRA

2002 ANNUAL REPORT

30th ANNIVERSARY EDITION
As the Computing Research Association celebrates its 30th anniversary, I can tell you that 2001-02 was a banner year. Ten new initiatives were introduced, and CRA’s ongoing activities continued to prosper. Highlights follow.

The first CRA Grand Challenges Conference in Computer Science and Engineering was held in June, focused on systems research issues. Our goal is to have a series of such conferences to develop challenges for the research community and funding agencies.

CRA’s Committee on the Status of Women in Computing Research (CRA-W) was awarded two NSF grants: one to continue the Distributed Mentoring Project (DMP) for another 5 years, and one to investigate issues related to the recruitment and retention of women graduate students, using empirical methods. The Committee to Diversify Computing (CDC) held the first Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing Symposium in October. More than 165 attended; the next symposium will be in fall 2003.

CRA worked extensively with policymakers to help shape legislation related to NSF’s budget, reauthorization of the NITRD initiative, and new Cyber Security R&D funding opportunities. CRA also focused on continued federal support for its programs addressing diversity in computing. The Advocacy Network (CRAN) became increasingly effective, and joint interactions with other societies and coalitions greatly strengthened the voice of CRA and the entire community.

Despite the economic slowdown, membership reached a high of 237, with 212 academic departments and 25 labs and centers. Twenty new academic members and two new labs/centers joined last year. Affiliate professional society members increased from five to six with the addition of the Canadian Association of Computer Science (CACS/AIC).

The board regretfully accepted the resignation of William Aspray as CRA Executive Director, effective July 31, 2002. During his six-year tenure, CRA’s programs, membership, and finances improved considerably. We wish Bill well in his new position as a Professor at the Indiana University School of Informatics. As of August 1, we will welcome new Executive Director Andrew Bernat, formerly a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Texas, El Paso, and most recently a program director at NSF.

During my first year as board chair, I have seen first-hand the efforts of our many volunteers, members, and staff in making CRA an effective organization. Thank you! With your help, we will achieve our goal of strengthening its position as one of the authoritative voices on computing research issues.

James D. Foley
Board Chair
The CRA Government Affairs program gained momentum in 2001-02 with the addition of Peter Harsha as CRA’s Director of Government Affairs. Peter joined CRA in October after six years as a Congressional aide and professional staffer for the House Science Committee.

The Government Affairs program continued to focus on computing research funding issues. CRA worked extensively with policymakers in Congress and the Administration to help shape legislation introduced, including measures that would authorize a doubling of the NSF budget over five years, reauthorize the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) initiative, and create new Cyber Security R&D funding opportunities. CRA also addressed concerns raised by university researchers regarding a move away from long-term, fundamental research at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). Continued federal support for CRA programs to promote diversity in computing was a major focus as well.

The Computing Research Advocacy Network (CRAN) continued to grow and be an effective force in advocating for computing issues in Congress and the Administration. Additionally, interactions with other scientific societies and coalitions have increased CRA’s influence and credibility among Washington policymakers. CRA will continue to focus efforts to strengthen its position as one of the authoritative voices on computing research issues.

A revitalized Communications Committee undertook a careful review of Computing Research News (CRN), the electronic bulletin (CRB), and the website. It proposed significant changes to improve CRA publications and CRA’s visibility within particular constituent groups (e.g., faculty, students, deans/administrators, and lab researchers). Some changes have already been instituted, and others will be initiated next year.

CRA conducted the 31st annual Taulbee Survey, widely acknowledged as the most complete and accurate accounting of statistical information about Ph.D.-granting CS&CE departments. And CRA once again conducted its annual Salary Survey of Computer Science Researchers in Industrial Laboratories.

Through its Forsythe List of Ph.D.-Granting Institutions, CRA continued to provide the chairs of all U.S. and Canadian Ph.D.-granting CS&CE departments with notices of conferences and other items of interest to the computing research community.

CRA’s awards programs once again recognized outstanding contributions to the community. Valerie Taylor, Northwestern University, received the 2002 A. Nico Habermann Award for her tireless efforts on behalf of minorities and women in computer science. Awards to undergraduates with outstanding research potential were made to Allegra Angus, Cornell University, and Adam Stubblefield, Rice University. Runners-up were Alexander Fabrikant, UC...
Berkeley, and Sara Su, University of Washington, and forty students received Honorary Mention. Mitsubishi Electric Research Labs sponsored the undergraduate awards this year.

The accomplishments of the Committee on the Status of Women in Computing Research (CRA-W) were many, thanks in large part to support from CRA, the National Science Foundation, USENIX, Lucent Technologies, and EOT-PACI. CRA-W received a major grant from NSF to continue the Distributed Mentoring Project (DMP) for another 5 years. CRA-W’s DMP funded 40 students for a summer of research directed by a female faculty member. A new Affiliate DMP program was piloted that enables male faculty to be mentors.

Other CRA-W highlights include the first Careers Workshop held for the participants from four-year colleges; the Collaborative Research Environment for Women in Undergraduate CS&E (CREW), providing collaborative research experiences for 25 students; the 10th anniversary of the “Expanding the Pipeline” column in the March 2002 Computing Research News; and an NSF grant to further investigate issues related to the recruitment and retention of women graduate students, using empirical methods.

In October, the Coalition to Diversify Computing (CDC, a joint committee of the ACM, CRA, and IEEE-Computer Society) held the first Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing Symposium in Houston, Texas. It was designed to celebrate the technical contributions and career interests of diverse people in computing fields. Plans are under way to hold the next symposium in fall 2003.

The Faculty Recruitment and Retention Study Group undertook a study of the difficulties that academic departments are facing in the recruitment and retention of faculty. Facts, causes, and potential solutions are being examined in this NSF-funded study. A final report is expected early in 2003.

Seventy participants met in June at the first CRA Grand Research Challenges in Computer Science and Engineering Conference in Warrenton, Virginia to re-think the grand research challenges in the field. When this conference was proposed, CRA agreed to organize it and funding was provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation. The conference focused on systems research issues. CRA plans a series of such CRA conferences addressing grand challenges in different areas of computing research.

CRA hosted its eighth Computing Leadership Summit in February, bringing together the presidents, executive directors, and other senior leadership of CRA and its six affiliate societies (AAAI, ACM, CACS/AIC, IEEE-Computer Society, SIAM, and USENIX) and NRC’s Computer Science and Telecommunications Board. This annual event provides a venue where common interests and potential cooperative efforts are discussed.

“what are the ‘grand research challenges’ in computer science and engineering? By articulating them clearly...the field can continue to make revolutionary progress.”

CRA Grand Challenges Conference Announcement, December 2001

COMMUNITY-BUILDING

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CRA’s Distinguished Service Award was given to Andries van Dam, Brown University, for his extensive influence over a number of years in many different areas related to computer science.

CRA continued its efforts to build the research community and provide lab managers an opportunity to share experiences by organizing regional meetings of lab directors. CRA also continued to organize meetings of the heads of schools of information science in an effort to identify areas of common interest, and this group of more than 40 people now meets regularly as an adjunct to CRA board meetings.

The CRA Model Agreements Task Force was formed to explore issues related to academic-industry agreements. The goals are to arrive at a number of recommended positions, and to eventually produce model agreements that incorporate these positions. Issues include intellectual property, internships, joint projects, funding, and commercialization oversight. Progress to date will be reported at the Snowbird Conference, and the task force will provide a report early in 2003.

Recognizing that many new academic structures are developing that contain or overlap the disciplines of computer science, computer engineering, and information technology, CRA convened an Academic Structures Task Force to study and make recommendations on how CRA’s structure and programs should involve these types of units. The group reported to the board in February, and will provide a session on its findings at the Snowbird Conference in July.

With support from NSF’s Directorate on Education and Human Resources, CRA organized workshops on “Using History to Improve Undergraduate Computer Science Teaching” in August 2001 (Amherst, MA) and in April 2002 (Minneapolis, MN) for computer science faculty members who teach undergraduates.
Revenue ($1,417,887)*

- Academic dues • $441,593 • 31%
- Labs & centers dues • $185,000 • 13%
- Society dues • $150,855 • 11%
- Ad revenue • $188,898 • 13%
- Grant income • $408,751 • 29%
- Interest income • $20,692 • 1.5%
- Conferences • $15,503 • 1%
- Miscellaneous • $6,595 • 0.5%

Expenses ($1,247,821)*

- Admin/Member services • $356,086 • 29%
- Government affairs • $129,435 • 10%
- Communications • $196,599 • 16%
- Women & minorities • $313,503 • 25%
- Other programs • $240,198 • 19%
- Miscellaneous • $12,000 • 1%

* This does not include an additional $169,500 of program support for CRA’s women and minorities programs that comes directly from EOT-PACI.

The financial data supplied here are based on unofficial records kept by the CRA staff. Divisions into revenue and expense categories are approximate. Official books prepared by CRA’s external auditors will be available for review in January 2003.
Academic Members

The following departments held membership in CRA for all, or in a few cases part, of the period July 2001 to June 2002.

Arizona State University • CSE
Auburn University • CSSE
Ball State University • CS
Boson University • CS
Bradley University • CS
Brandeis University • CS
Brigham Young University • CS
Brown University • CS
Bryn Mawr College • MCS
Bucknell University • CS
California Institute of Technology • CS
California State Polytechnic University • CS
California State University, Chico • CS
California State University, Hayward • MCS
Carnegie Mellon University • CS
Carnegie Mellon University • ECE
Case Western Reserve University • ECE
City University of New York, Graduate Center • CS
Clemson University • CS
College of Charleston • CS
College of William & Mary • CS
Colorado School of Mines • MCS
Colorado State University • CS
Columbia University • CS
Cornell University • CS
Dahlhouse University • CS
Dartmouth College • CS
DePaul University • CS
Drexel • MCS
Duke University • CS
Florida Atlantic University • CSE
Florida Institute of Technology • CS
Florida International University • CS
Florida State University • CS
Florida State University • IS
George Washington University • CS
Georgia Institute of Technology, CS
Georgia Institute of Technology • ECE
Georgia Southern University • MCS
Georgia Southern University • IT
Georgia State University • CS
Georgia Tech • CS
Grinnell College • MCS
Harvard University • CS
Harvey Mudd College • CS
Illinois Institute of Technology • CS
Illinois State University • ACS
Indiana University • CS
Indiana University • I
Iowa State University • CS
Johns Hopkins University • CS
Kansas State University • CS
Kent State University • CS
Lehigh University • CSE
Long Island University • ICS
Louisiana State University • CS
Loyola University Chicago • CS
Massachusetts Institute of Technology • EECS
Michigan State University • CS
Michigan Technological University • CS
Mississippi State University • CS
Montana State University • CS
New Jersey Institute of Technology • CIS
New Mexico State University • CS
New York University • CS
North Carolina State University • CS
Northeastern University • CS
Northwestern University • CS
Northwestern University • ECE
Oakland University • CSE
Ohio State University • CIS
Ohio University • EECS
Oklahoma State University • CS
Old Dominion University • CS
Oregon Health & Science University • CSE
Oregon State University • CS
Pace University • CSIS
Pennsylvania State University • CSE
Pennsylvania State University • IST
Polytechnic University • CS
Portland State University • CS
Princeton University • CS
Purdue University • CS
Purdue University • ECE
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute • CS
Rice University • CS
Rochester Institute of Technology • CS
Rutgers University, Busch Campus • CS
Santa Clara University • CE
Simon Fraser University • CS
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale • CS
Southern Methodist University • CSE
Southern Polytechnic State University • CSE
Southwest Texas State University • CS
Stanford University • CS
State University of New York, Albany • CS
State University of New York, Binghamton • CS
State University of New York, Stony Brook • CS
Stevens Institute of Technology • CS
Swarthmore College • CS
Stony Brook • CS
Tulane University • ECE
University of Buffalo • CSE
University of California, Berkeley • ICS
University of California, Irvine • ICS
University of California, Los Angeles • CSE
University of California, Riverside • CS
University of California, San Diego • CSE
University of California, Santa Barbara • CS
University of California, Santa Cruz • CS
University of Central Florida • CS
University of Chicago • CS
University of Cincinnati • ECECS
University of Colorado, Boulder • CS
University of Delaware • CSE
University of Denver • CS
University of Florida • CIS
University of Georgia • CS
University of Houston • CS
University of Iowa • CS
University of Illinois, Chicago • CS
University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign • CS
University of Iowa • CS
University of Kansas • ECECS
University of Kentucky • CS
University of Louisiana at Lafayette • CACS
University of Louisville • CECS
University of Maine • CS
University of Manitoba • CS
University of Maryland • CS
University of Maryland, Baltimore Co • CSEE
University of Massachusetts, Amherst • CS
University of Michigan • EECS
University of Michigan • I
University of Minnesota • CSE
University of Mississippi • CS
University of Missouri, Columbia • CECS
University of Missouri, Rolla • CS
University of Nebraska, Lincoln • CSE
University of Nevada, Las Vegas • CS
University of Nevada, Reno • CS
University of New Brunswick • CS
University of New Hampshire • CS
University of New Mexico • CS
University of New Mexico • EECE
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill • CS
University of North Carolina, Greensboro • IT
University of North Dakota • CS
University of North Texas • CS
University of Notre Dame • CS
University of Oklahoma • CS
University of Oregon • CS
University of Pennsylvania • CS
University of Pittsburgh • CS
University of Puget Sound • MCS
University of Redlands • MCS
University of Rochester • CS
University of South Alabama • CS
University of South Carolina • CSE
University of South Florida • CSE
University of Southern California • EEECS
University of Southern California • CS
University of Tennessee, Knoxville • CS
University of Texas, Arlington • CSE
University of Texas, Austin • CS
University of Texas, Dallas • CS
University of Texas, El Paso • CS
University of Texas, Austin • CSE
University of Toronto • CS
University of Toronto • EECS
University of Tulsa • MCS
University of Utah • CS
University of Vermont • CS
University of Virginia • CS
University of Washington • CSE
University of Washington, Bothell • CS
University of Washington, Tacoma • CSS
University of Waterloo • CS
University of West Florida • CS
University of Wisconsin, Madison • CS
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee • EECS
University of Wyoming • CS
Utah State University • CS
Vanderbilt University • EECS
Virginia Tech • CS
Wake Forest University • CS
Washington State University • EECS
Washington University in St. Louis • CS
Wayne State University • CS
Wesleyan University • CS
West Virginia University • CSEE
Western Michigan University • CS
Williams College • CS
Worcester Polytechnic Institute • CS
Wright State University • CSE
Yale University • CS
York University • CS
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