

20 Questions for ACM Presidential Candidates, Joe Konstan and Yannis Ioannidis Round 1, April 8 2022

Thank you to Yannis and Joe for working together to solicit questions from the computing community and taking the time to answer them in this public way.

The questions were submitted anonymously through a Google form and an event on OnlineQuestions.org. In Online Questions, it is possible to see the questions others have submitted and vote for them. For these questions, we put the number of votes in parentheses after the question.

This set of questions was collected between April 4 and April 8. Moderators have done some light editing to the questions. We also grouped them into some loose categories. The questions will be posted publicly and eventually independent answers from each of the candidates will be posted as well. We expect to post answers to these questions on April 18. We then plan to collect one additional round of questions and answers.

The moderators suggest a limit of 300 words when answering each question. Some questions are similar, if it is helpful to answer some questions as a group, we encourage that and have attempted to group similar questions together to facilitate this style.

- 1) What do you think are the most important steps ACM should take to reach out to new members and especially younger members? (4)
- 2) ACM's membership size has been almost stagnant for a decade. What do you plan to do about this? (3)
- 3) How might you boost engagement with existing ACM communities or build new and better ones? (2)

- 4) What are the concrete steps that you would take to further expand geographic diversity and deepen the participation of more countries in ACM?

- 5) What do you see as the main benefits of ACM membership? (2)

- 6) How will you make ACM more responsive to the needs of members and volunteers? (3)

- 7) Last year Moshe Vardi raised, in a CACM column on "The Agency Trilemma and ACM", the issue of the working relationship between ACM members, elected officers, and ACM HQ staff. How do you plan to ensure that ACM is membership driven? (1)

- 8) Do you have any plans to help authors benefit from their published papers? For example, giving a percentage of the money ACM makes per download to the authors (22) (Note: This was the most voted for question by a wide margin.)

- 9) The ACM increasingly resembles a predatory publisher, abusing unpaid reviewers and editors while charging outrageous open access fees to host PDFs badly. How will you reduce OA fees while offering fair compensation for academic labour?
- 10) In June 2020, ACM Council adopted the goal of making the Digital Library fully Gold Open Access within five years (subject to Covid and sustainability). What will you do to make this happen? (1)
- 11) How will you fix the systemic problems with the ACM Digital Library? What do you see as the most pressing problems? (2)
- 12) COVID has opened new opportunities for virtual conferences. How do you see the future of ACM conferences? virtual, in person, hybrid? and how might the pricing model change? (2)
- 13) Do you think the surveillance capitalism model currently practiced by many large tech companies violates the ACM Code of Ethics? If no, why not? and if yes, what might you change about ACM's relationships? (2)
- 14) The world as it is today faces tremendous problems, many of which pose existential threats. Addressing the problems caused by climate change may be the most obvious, but there are many others. What are your thoughts on the computing profession's responsibility to society at large in relation to these problems and what specific steps would you propose that ACM should take in relation to them?
- 15) How will you navigate the divide between those who are thriving within the existing ACM community and those who demand large, structural changes toward diversity, equity, and inclusion? (2)
- 16) How would your values and professional experience contribute to the ACM's efforts to create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment for members? What specific initiatives or organizational changes would you pursue towards that end?
- 17) ACM has becoming increasingly interdisciplinary with more scholars from the humanities and the social sciences. What is your take on this evolution? (2)
- 18) How do you see the mix of required computing skills changing over time (e.g. less programming/coding)? What would you do to prepare ACM for the changes that you expect/forecast will come?
- 19) The leadership of other ACM SIGs has taken public positions on issues like the war in Ukraine and the Black Lives Matter movement. Do you think it is appropriate for SIGCSE to take public positions on issues not directly related to Computer Science Education, with or without polling its members?

20) Several colleagues in the community express concerns about research rankings of programs, metrics of research productivity for individual researchers, and other related criteria. To what extent do you believe the current criteria fairly reflect the quality of research conducted and how might these criteria/metrics be improved?