

FY'2024 Draft Annual Report of the Publications Board

For the Period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Submitted by: Dame Wendy Hall and Divesh Srivastava Co-Chairs.

September 30, 2024

I. Overview, Strategic Directions, and Key Current Priorities

To support ACM's mission of advancing computing as a science and profession, the Publications Board focuses on developing, enhancing, and maintaining high-quality publications that disseminate new research, translate research to inform practice, reflect on practice to inspire innovation in both practice and research, support research integrity initiatives to improve trust in research results reported in ACM publications, and advocates for open access of scholarly information to broaden access to ACM Publications for the global computing community in order to accelerate the rate of discovery and innovation for the public good.

The Publications Board is composed of volunteers from the community working in partnership with and supported by ACM's publications staff and staff in other HQ departments. Together we oversee ACM's organization-wide publications strategy, policies, and procedures; and ACM's broad collection of journals, proceedings, magazines, books, and the curation of 3rd party publications in the ACM Digital Library platform.

Key Current Priorities

The Pubs Board expects to spend significant time on the following issues in FY 2025.

- ACM's transition to Open Access publication via ACM Open and other OA publication models
- Strategic development in AI, including AI Collections Initiative, Governance & Decision Making, AI/ML Overlay/Preprint Review Initiative, Niche AI Journal launches, AI/ML Magazine
- Research Integrity and Publishing Excellence - Investigations, Tools, Reproducibility, Policy, Education, & Appeals

In Fiscal Year 2024, the Publications Board focused its activity around the following key priorities:

- Increasing access to ACM Publications in the ACM Digital Library
- Continuing sustainable transition to ACM Open publication model
- Diversifying ACM's Publications Board, consistent with ACM's focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- Continuing to increase focus on research integrity initiatives. Significantly increased efforts to investigate allegations of research and publications related misconduct.
- Improving the quality of ACM's Publications data and metadata. Mandated registration of ORCID's for all ACM's journal authors and on target to fully implement the mandate for all ACM and ICPS conference authors by October 2022.

- Continuing to launch new journals in key growth areas of Computer Science, such as Ethics and Artificial Intelligence
- Continuing development of ACM's Journal First Publication Model via the Proceedings of the ACM Series (PACM)
- Continuing to assess quality and impact of ACM's journals program
- Assessing quality and strategic importance of the ACM International Conference Proceedings Series (ICPS)
- Addressing the crisis in scholarly peer review

II. Basic Publications Board Information

A. Members of the Publications Board

A list of members of the Publications Board during FY'23 is given in Table 1. One new member joined the Board during FY'24, to help offset some members who retired in FY'23 and some who moved to the DL Board in FY'23.

- John West (Texas Advance Computing Center)

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

Jonathan Aldrich (Carnegie Mellon)	SGB Liaison: 07/01/22 - 06/30/24 Reappointed: 07/01/23 - 06/30/26
Tom Crick (Swansea University)	Pubs Board Member Term: 10/01/21 - 06/30/24 Reappointed: 07/01/24 - 06/30/27
Jack W. Davidson (University of Virginia)	DL Board Liaison: 07/01/21 -06/30/2024 Reappointed: 07/01/24 - 06/30/27
Wendy Hall (University of Southampton)	Pubs Board Member Term: 07/26/22 - 06/30/25 Co-Chair: 07/26/22 – 06/30/25
Michael Heroux (Sandia Labs)	Pubs Board Member Term: 08/1/23 - 06/30/26 Co-Chair, New Publications Committee: 08/1/23 - 06/30/26
Michael Kirkpatrick (James Madison University)	Pubs Board Member Term: 07/01/22 - 06/30/25 Chair, Ethics & Plagiarism Committee 07/01/22 - 06/30/25
Joseph Konstan (University of Minnesota)	Pubs Board Member Term: 07/01/22 - 12/31/23 Chair, Business Working Group: 07/01/22 - 12/31/23

James Larus (EPFL)	Pubs Board Member Term: 07/01/23 - 06/30/26
Marc Najork (Google Research)	Pubs Board Member Term: 06/01/23 - 06/30/26
Beng Chin Ooi (National University of Singapore)	Pubs Board Member Term: 05/01/22 - 06/30/25
Holly Rushmeier (Yale University)	Pubs Board Member Term: 07/01/21 - 06/30/24 Co-Chair, Assessment & Search Committee: 07/01/21 - 06/30/24
Robert Schnabel (University of Colorado Boulder)	Pubs Board Member Term: 11/1/21 - 06/30/24
Divesh Srivastava (AT&T)	Pubs Board Member Term: 07/01/22 - 06/30/25 Co-Chair: 07/01/22 - 06/30/25
Stuart Taylor (Royal Society)	Pubs Board Member Term: 09/01/23 - 08/31/26
Bhavani Thuraisingham (University of Texas Dallas)	Pubs Board Member Term: 07/15/23 - 06/30/26 Co-Chair, New Publications Committee: 07/15/23 - 06/30/26
Adelinde Uhrmacher (University of Rostock)	Pubs Board Member Term: 10/01/22 - 06/30/25 Co-Chair, Assessment & Search Committee: 10/01/22 - 06/30/25

Philip Wadler (University of Edinburgh)	Pubs Board Member Term: 10/01/22 - 06/30/25 Chair, PACM Steering Committee: 10/01/22 - 06/30/25
John West (Texas Advanced Computing Center)	Pubs Board Member Term: 08/01/24 - 07/31/27 New member FY'25.
Julie Williamson (University of Glasgow)	Original appointment: 08/01/17 - 03/31/24

III. Committees & Project Updates

A. 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 the development of new title proposals, the Committee provides the Publications Board with recommendations and actions regarding the proposal.

FY24 Activities

The Committee evaluated several proposed publications and approved one new journal, while also working to identify strategic opportunities for new journals.

New ACM's Publications approved during FY24 were:

- *ACM Transactions on AI for Science*

Committee Members

Michael Heroux (Co-Chair), Bhavani Thuraisingham (Co-Chair), Amy Bruckman, Koen De Bosschere, Chris Hundhausen, Sven Koenig, Tei-Wei Kuo, Sandeep K. Shukla, Sean Pidgeon (ACM staff), Sara Kate Heukerott (ACM staff).

B. 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 an EIC Search Committee Chair and potential Committee members, and serve as liaison between the Search Committee and the Publications Board.

FY24 Activities

In FY24, the Assessment and Search Committee completed assessments and searches for twenty journals. New EICs were appointed for fifteen journals, and existing EICs were reappointed for six journals. In addition, interim EICs were appointed for CSUR, DTRAP, and JOCCH.

New Appointments FY'24		
Journal	EIC Name	Term Start
TEAC	Paul Goldberg	9/15/2023
TEAC	M. Utku Ünver	9/15/2023
PACMSE	Luciano Baresi	10/1/2023
DTRAP	Todd McDonald (interim EIC)	11/1/2023

DTRAP	Thomas Schreck (interim EIC)	11/1/2023
JDIQ	Felix Naumann	11/15/2023
IMWUT	Lena Mamykina	1/1/2024
IMWUT	Thomas Ploetz	1/1/2024

TAAS	Rami Bahsoon	1/15/2024
JOCCH	Karina Rodriguez-Echavarria (interim)	1/26/2024
TKDD	Jian Pei	2/1/2024
TODAES	Jiang Hu	2/1/2024
TOPS	Michael Waidner	2/1/2024
TOSN	Wen Hu	2/1/2024
THRI	Iolanda Leite	3/1/2024
THRI	James Young	3/1/2024
CSUR	David Atienza (interim)	3/15/2024
CSUR	Michela Milano (interim)	3/15/2024
TOCS	Sam H. Noh	5/1/2024
TOCS	Robert van Renesse	5/1/2024
PACMCGIT	Michael Doggett	5/15/2024
POMACS	John C.S. Lui	5/15/2024

TIOT	Mo Li	5/15/2024
TMIS	Heng Xu	5/15/2024
Reappointments FY'23		
COLA	Geoff Mulgan	8/1/2023
COLA	Scott Page	8/1/2023
PACMHCI	Jeff Nichols	8/1/2023
TOIS	Min Zhang	8/1/2023
TWEB	Ryen W. White	2/1/2024
TCPS	Chenyang Lu	3/1/2024
DLT	Raymond Choo	6/1/2024
DLT	Mohammad Hammoudeh	6/1/2024

Committee Members

Holly Rushmeier (Yale University, Co-Chair), Adelinde Uhrmacher (University of Rostock, Co-Chair), Malay Bhattacharyya (Indian Statistical Institute), Victoria Interrante (University of Minnesota), Sartaj Sahni (University of Florida), Josh Tenenberg (University of Washington, through 1/24/2024), Michelle Zhou (Juji, Inc.), Diane Crawford (ACM Deputy Director, ACM Magazines, through 4/30/2024), Scott Delman (ACM Director of Publications), Sara Kate Heukerott (ACM Associate Director of Publications), Sean Pidgeon (ACM Executive Editor), Ralph Raiola (Executive Editor, ACM Magazines, from 5/1/2024, Stacey Schick (ACM Senior Associate Editor), Yubing Zhai (ACM Editor).

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

We have 4 female volunteer members (3 from US and 1 from Europe) and 3 male volunteers (2 from US and 1 from Asia). We asked the Search Committee Chairs to ensure gender and geographic balance in their Search Committees.

C. Ethics & Plagiarism Committee

Mandate

The ACM Publications Board's Ethics and Plagiarism Committee (E&P) handles all plagiarism cases and issues dealing with professional ethics in publishing. This includes complaints of conflicts of interest, authorship, and allegations of research misconduct. The Committee develops policies and practices to ensure the integrity of the scholarly record. The E&P Committee has jurisdiction over all cases related to ACM journals and magazines, and all conference proceedings (ACM and ICPS) published in the Digital Library. For Level 4 and 5 violations, the Ethics and Plagiarism Committee makes a formal recommendation to the ACM Publications Board, which convenes confidential Executive Sessions to discuss allegations, review evidence, and make decisions.

FY 2024 Activity

The primary challenge for the Committee this year has been to handle a significant increase in the number of cases. This increase is partially driven by increased reporting by editors and PC chairs. In prior years, plagiarism cases caught prior to publication were handled by editor and PC chairs through desk rejection; these cases are now being reported to the Committee for better tracking over time. While these pre-publication cases tend to be simpler than the types of cases we have seen in prior years, they still require time and resources.

To cope with this increased caseload, an additional ACM staff member has been assigned to work with the Committee. In addition, the Committee is currently in the process of transitioning to a new platform with improved project management capabilities. Both of these changes will help the Committee to handle cases more efficiently, but additional support will be needed in the future to manage the increased workload.

In FY'25, the Committee would like to engage with the Community more proactively, communicating important trends, policy changes, and providing a range of educational materials and webinars to increase awareness of ACM policies and ethical publishing standards.

In FY'24, the Committee encountered several allegations of plagiarism of ideas that could not be immediately dismissed but ultimately could not be supported. These allegations are more complicated than traditional plagiarism, as they require examining the provenance of a Work rather than examining the automated comparison of final results. It should be noted that the Publications Board did change the Policy on Plagiarism, Misrepresentation, and Falsification in FY 2023 to make explicit mention of plagiarism "of ideas." However, it is not clear if this change is directly related to an increase in reported cases, and more time is needed to determine if this increase is coincidental.

The Committee has continued to receive informal reports of collusion by "rings" of reviewers and other breaches of the peer review process. If substantiated, these allegations are grave as they bring into question the scientific merit of multiple published results in various conferences and journals—and the overall candor of all participants. Although the Committee has been consulted on multiple potential cases, the Committee has only received one official claim that is currently under investigation. Furthermore, while the Committee is concerned about the serious nature of these allegations, the possible scale of circumstances is such that some formal complaints—with actionable evidence—might well be beyond the Committee's capacity to investigate. In some cases,

the alleged violations go beyond the boundaries of ACM and may involve breaches of related venues at peer organizations.

During the past year, the Committee contributed to other efforts beyond investigating cases. The Committee helped to develop updated Peer Review and Inappropriate Content policies. The Committee also provided key guidance on the development of ACM's new [Peer Reviewer Training and Certification program](#), including the [Case Studies for Peer Reviewers](#), which address some of the trickier scenarios ACM reviewers encounter.

In the coming years, the Committee has goals to address some of its challenges in multiple ways. One priority is to transition the Committee's work onto a more functional project management system, a transition that is already underway. A second priority is continuing the Committee's important work to update and improve ACM's publications policies, as well as informing the Community of these updates. The Committee is also considering other changes to clarify the scope of these policies, particularly regarding conference publication and ICPS. One important piece of these changes is to consider carefully the role of PC chairs and editors in executing pre-publication investigations. The Committee has begun to discuss possible opportunities for additional outreach and communication with the Community to increase understanding of the Committee's work and procedures.

Finally, an item for more careful consideration is the issue of what the Committee discloses to the Community about its activities, both for individual cases and broader findings. ACM will resume notification of Level 4 and 5 violations to the Dean, Chair, or Supervisor of those with Level 4 or 5 violations.

2017-2024 Ethics and Plagiarism Cases

Fiscal Year	New Complaints	Complaints Dismissed ¹	Resolved Complaints ²	Unresolved Complaints ³	Resolved Supported ⁴	Resolved Unsupported ⁵	Avg Months to Resolution ⁶
2024	63	9	15	39	6	9	4.6
2023	36	10	15	11	8	7	10.8
2022	58	17	40	1	23	17	10.7
2021	25	8	16	1	8	8	7.1
2020	43	19	24	0	16	8	4.8
2019	38	12	26	0	22	4	4.7
2018	13	8	4	1	4	0	2.3
2017	15	3	12	0	7	5	6.8
Total	291	86	152	53	94	58	7.2

1: Dismissed means claim is out of scope or insufficient evidence was provided by the claimant to conduct an investigation.

2: Refers to cases submitted in that fiscal year in which a decision has been made and any resulting appeals have been resolved. Every row in the table reports on the complaints received in the specified fiscal year and the decisions made for them at some point in the future, in the same or subsequent years.

3: Refers to cases for which a decision has not yet been made or an appeal is pending resolution.

4: Refers to cases where a decision was made, any resulting appeal was resolved, and a violation was found to have occurred.

5: Refers to cases where a decision was made, any resulting appeal was resolved, and no violation was found to have occurred.

6: Does not include dismissed cases. A number of complaints submitted in FY23 and FY24 are under appeal or have not yet been resolved. The averages for those years will likely increase once those cases reach completion.

FY24 New Ethics and Plagiarism Cases by Publication Type

ACM Journals/Magazines	Claims 17
ACM Proceedings/Conferences	Claims 42
Other Non-ACM Publications	Claims 4

FY24 New Ethics and Plagiarism Cases by Type of Violation

Authorship Violations, including plagiarism	48
Conflict of Interest	3
Coercion, Abuse, Harassment, Retaliation	1
Falsification of Research and Research Misconduct	4
Peer Review Violations	7

Examples of E&P Violations and Resulting Sanctions (Short Abstract Narratives)

Here are high-level descriptions of cases where evidence was found that supported concluding that the respondent had contravened one or more of ACM's publications policies.

Cases of Publications Violations	Sanctions/Remediation
The Respondent was found, across numerous peer reviews for multiple ACM publications, to have regularly included a list of Respondent's published papers that the Respondent suggested the authors add to their reference list, without explaining their relevance to the work in question or identifying them as the Respondent's own papers. The Respondent did not provide any substantive advice on improving the papers under review.	The Respondent was barred from contributing to any ACM venue for five years.

<p>The primary Respondent violated a conference's double-anonymous peer review policy by signing their reviews. In addition, the conference PC chairs failed to enforce the stated double-anonymous policy, sending the signed review to the authors.</p>	<p>The Respondent and PC chairs were given warnings (Level I penalties) that double-anonymous policies do not allow reviewers to waive their anonymity. In addition, the chairs were reminded of their obligation to enforce such policies.</p>
<p>A conference paper submission was flagged for citation falsification. The paper was co-authored by several undergraduate students and a professor. The students admitted to using generative tools to create a citation list and failing to confirm the validity of the results. The professor admitted to failing to oversee the work.</p>	<p>The submission was desk-rejected by the conference. In addition, the professor was barred from contributing to any ACM venue for one year.</p>
<p>A graduate student had reviewed a conference paper and conducted a set of experiments that used similar techniques as the unpublished work. The student did not inform their co-authors of the source for the project's ideas. The work was published without referring to the earlier work, which had also been published.</p>	<p>The primary Respondent was barred from contributing to any ACM venue for two years. The co-authors were not penalized beyond the retraction of the work.</p>
<p>The organizers of multiple conferences were found to have manipulated the reference lists of papers by adding citations to their own work. These references were added without the knowledge or awareness of at least some of the papers' original authors. Several collaborators also engaged in citation padding by adding a very significant number of irrelevant and unnecessary self-citations. The full scope of these violations impacted over 100 papers across multiple years of</p>	<p>The primary Respondent was barred from contributing to any ACM venue for 25 years, while another was barred for 10 years. Other Respondents had work retracted and were barred for one or two years depending on the extent of their violations.</p>

conferences by this organization.	
-----------------------------------	--

Committee Members

Andrew Adams, Fernando Diaz, Simson Garfinkel (Vice Chair), Jesmin Jahan, Michael Kirkpatrick (Chair), Shan Lu (Vice-chair), Bobby Schnabel, Scott Delman (ACM), Barbara Ryan (ACM), Sara Kate Heukerott (ACM)

Proceedings of the ACM 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.

FY24 Activities

We plan to bring the SC and all of the PACM EICs together for a virtual meeting once or twice a year, mainly with the purpose of exchanging ideas and establishing guidelines for best practice. We held 2 meetings in FY 24 and both were lively and successful.

There was no new PACM proposed or approved this FY. However, Pubs Board did approve the addition of PODS conferences to PACMMOD, and ISSTA conferences to PACMSE. We also completed the process to approve new EICs for PACMCGIT and POMACS.

The current list of PACMs, their affiliated conferences, and EICs is as below.

- PACM IMWUT (UbiComp/ISWC) – Lena Mamykina, Thomas Ploetz
- PACMCGIT (I3D, ETRA, SIGGRAPH Art Papers, SCA, HPG) – Michael Doggett
- PACMHCI (GROUP, CSCW, ETRA, EICS, MobileHCI, CHI PLAY, ISS) – Jeff Nichols
- PACMMOD (SIGMOD/PODS) – Divyakant Agrawal
- PACMNET (CoNEXT) – Marco Mellio & Peter Steeniste
- PACMPL (POPL, ICFP, OOPSLA, PLDI, HOPL) – Michael Hicks
- PACMSE (FSE/ISSTA) - Luciano Baresi
- POMACS (SIGMETRICS) – John C.S. Liu

Committee Members

Philip Wadler (University of Edinburgh, Chair), Maria Gini (University of Minnesota), Jessica Hodgins (Carnegie Mellon University), Joseph Konstan (University of Minnesota), Jeff Nichols (Apple, Inc.)

IV. ACM Publications Portfolio

ACM is currently the publisher of 108 active periodicals, including 72 journals and transactions, 7 magazines, 29 newsletters, and a series of advanced-level books called *ACM Books*. Total submissions (original and revised) to non-PACM ACM journals in FY24 was 19,612 compared to 14,720 in FY23. The average acceptance rate was 28%.

During FY24, ACM added 699 volumes of conference and related workshop proceedings to its portfolio; this included 296 volumes added to ACM's International Conference Proceedings Series (ICPS).

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 seven new titles in FY24, signed publishing agreements for ten additional titles, and formally approved four additional titles that are now pending contract signature.

V. ACM Digital Library & ACM Open

FY24 ACM Open Progress

In FY24, ACM transitioned more than **800 institutions from ACM Digital Library Read to ACM Open licenses** for a total of over **1,550 institutions globally** as of the end of FY24.

Notable new ACM Open licenses with academic consortia agreements signed in FY24 include in the United Kingdom, France, India, Pakistan, Denmark, Malaysia, South Korea, and Australia, adding to the previous year's gains in Greece, Israel, the United States, and the Czech Republic, among others. Additionally, new agreements with individual academic institutions have been added in Canada, Malaysia and Taiwan. The first wave of early adopters of ACM Open were also renewed, an indicator of potential long-term sustainability of the ACM Open model.

ACM remains on track to transition ~70% of the 30,000 APC-eligible articles published annually by ACM by January 1, 2026, representing approximately 70% of the \$23,000,000 in publications income needed to be sustainable, although a fully sustainable

- ACM is on track to meet this goal, although this will depend largely on the significant effort required to transition the less committed ACM institutional DL customers that have not yet joined ACM Open.
- The remaining income of ~\$7,000,000 will come from author-paid APCs coming from ACM Open “hold-out” DL Read Only customers.
 - Looking at *calendar year* 2024 the total **APC Eligible articles** published from Jan 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024 was 17,364. The total number of Open Access articles was 6,230 or about 35.8%. This growth was up from approximately 31% in 2023.

At the end of FY24, more than 35% of research articles published annually by ACM have been made Open Access upon publication as the result of the Corresponding Author of an article choosing to pay an Article Processing Charge (APC) or being affiliated with institutions participating in the ACM Open program. The percentage of Open Access articles added to the Digital Library will grow significantly as a result of significant sales and marketing efforts of the ACM Open program deployed throughout the remainder of 2024 and 2025. A complete, up-to-date list of institutions that have signed on to ACM Open is available [here](#). (FYI: this page's UX is currently being updated with an interactive map to provide the user with simple navigation to a specific institution. Institution names and an overall gauge counter are being automated via internal systems.)

FY 2024/25 Risks

- The ACM Open model still faces significant challenges to establish national agreements with countries such as China, Japan, Canada, and Brazil. Strategic planning is underway to address these markets.
 - ACM can not predict the impact of authors being required to pay APCs for ~10,000 articles per year in 2026 and beyond.
 - Chinese authored papers are of particular concern as they now represent 30% of all published articles annually and due to the lack of a national-level Open Access Mandate in China, ACM Open has not yet achieved the traction it has in other countries.
- Working with national mandates (or lack thereof), the complexity of navigating consortial requirements and lengthy procurement processes, and ongoing budget constraints for libraries all remain “real” obstacles.
- Transitioning the remaining hundreds of Tier 10 institutions (publishing 0-3 articles per year) is a significant effort. A strategy to auto-flip these customers from DL

subscribers to ACM Open customers is in development with a goal to complete the transition for this group of customers by early 2025. This approach will remove the manual effort and appearance of “choice” for customers. As these customers are essentially non-publishing institutions, the result of this auto-flip will be that they will pay the same or less for their ACM Open subscription vs. their DL subscriptions. The cost to ACM does not change.

- Tier 1-9 institutions not transitioning to ACM Open after 2026 due to the same reasons outlined above.
- Preliminary results do not reveal any significant trends in regards to gauging the willingness and ability of Authors to pay Mandatory APCs via the ICPS Conference Series.

FY24 Content Added to the DL & Platform Usage

During FY21, the ACM Council created the ACM Digital Library Board to oversee and provide strategic leadership for the ACM Digital Library platform. As a result, the ACM Digital Library Board will provide an annual report of the Board’s activities, progress, and priorities including publication data and key metrics for the FY24 period.

On September 5-6, 2024 the DL Board convened at the ACM Headquarters in New York to exclusively review research outcomes conducted by the IS development team, and develop specific policies and feature sets for a progressive new approach for creating a **“Basic” or public version** of the DL and an **“Enhanced” version** for paying institutional customers, ACM members, and ACM authors. ACM is undertaking these steps to reduce likelihood of low publishing institutions AND medium and high publishing institutions from canceling subscriptions and becoming “free riders” after January 1, 2026..

Basic/Enhanced - Go to Market Quick Facts:

- Initially, create multiple versions of the DL (Branding TBD)
 - Basic Version
 - Enhanced Version
- Separate the Published Article Value Proposition from the DL Platform Value Proposition
- Open Access Articles Will Appear on Both Versions
 - Basic version users (public, no pay wall) will not have access to advanced features that represent the “value-add” incentives to subscribe
- The platform use cases will depend on access controls determined by the “business model” (i.e.- ACM Open Institution, DL Platform Customer, APC paid OR non-paying public visitors/researchers)
- Leverage the loss of functionality as a sales incentive to participate in ACM Open Access

VI. ACM Magazines FY 2024

ACM’s seven magazine titles—*Communications*, *Interactions*, *XRDS*, *Queue*, *Inroads*, *Ubiquity*, and *eLearn*,d continued the success witnessed last year in terms of readership statistics and ACM Digital Library downloads But other events were just as, if not more important.

Perhaps the biggest news in the ACM Magazines world occurred on April 30, 2024, when Diane Crawford officially retired from the organization after an illustrious 37-year career with the organization. Diane joined the ACM in 1987, as an editor for *Communications*. She was

well known and well respected for penning columns such as “From Washington” and “Editorial Pointers” and got to know the computing industry and its luminaries by conducting forums and attending conferences around the world. During her career at ACM, she has worked with five different editors-in-chief and, since the late 1990s, has been the driving force behind the magazine group, including the *Communications*, *Interactions*, *XRDS*, *Ubiquity*, *StandardView*, *Intelligence*, *networker*, *InRoads*, and more. Diane was succeeded by Ralph Raiola, who joined the *Communications* staff as a senior editor in 2021.

All eyes were peeled on the February 29 launch of the redesigned *Communications of the ACM* website. The culmination of more than a year’s worth of effort and coordination between *Communications* leadership, staff, members, and several external vendors, the redesign introduced users to a website boasting a modern magazine design, a much improved search, responsive functionality, daily content updates, and much more. These, however, represent only the tip of a very large and important digital publishing iceberg. With the redesign, *Communications* (ACM’s flagship publication) unlocked the remainder of its content archive; now, anyone can access any piece of content from any time at any time. With the redesign, *Communications* is also the first magazine in the group to shift to a completely online-first paradigm, where articles of all types are posted to the ACM Digital Library and the *Communications* website well in advance of their publication in a print issue. The print magazine remains very much a member benefit, and authors are still excited when their articles appear in print. The transition from a print-based to a Web-first model has been an extraordinary effort; editorial and production processes in place for more than 65 years have been rewired.

One very encouraging sign for the new website is usage and engagement time; for the first couple of months after launch, the site made modest gains in time users spent on the site. Since the end of April 2024, however, the *Communications* website seems to really have hit a nice stride. For some perspective, between April 1 and Sept. 8 of 2023, average usage time was 53 seconds. During that same period in 2024, average engagement is at around 1 minute and 26 seconds.

In June, Clarivate reported another strong finish for *Communications*’ impact factor rating. The 11.1 impact factor, based on 2023 citations of articles from the 2021/2022 issues, placed it first in the Computer Science, Hardware & Architecture category for the second year in a row; third of 131 titles in the Computer Science, Software Engineering category; and sixth of 143 journals in the Computer Science, Theory & Methods category.

In March, *Communications* took another step forward on the engagement front with a new newsletter available exclusively to ACM’s LinkedIn users. Dubbed “Advances in Computing,” the newsletter provides content from the magazine in easily digestible briefs designed to drive traffic to the site...and it’s working. Website analytics show clear traffic bumps and spikes on days when the newsletter goes out. It has been very well received; the anecdotal commentary has all been positive and we’ve given readers another reason to engage with each other and ACM on LinkedIn. At the time of this writing, we were on the precipice of acquiring our 20,000th subscriber. The Marketing team (specifically Na Zhong and Bruce Shriver) deserves the majority of the credit for getting this going.

FY24 is shaping up to be a solid year for article downloads from *Communications*—with more than 5 million reported at the time of this writing. In addition, *Communications*’ online presence shares content on a global scale. In FY24, the magazine’s website logged roughly 800,000 unique visitors, most notably from the U.S., India, China, U.K., Canada, Germany, Japan, Australia, France, and Brazil.

Interactions, ACM’s bi-monthly magazine serving the human-computer interactions communities,

recorded almost 700,000 DL downloads in FY24. Also, Interactions recently brought on a new Senior Editor at HQ to replace John Stanik, who moved over to *Communications*.

XRDS is the ACM's magazine written by and for student members. Published quarterly, *XRDS* covers emerging industry trends, research, and career advice relevant to Computer Science students worldwide. It's the sole ACM magazine whose international readership base exceeds its North American audience. In FY24, the download count for *XRDS* content was north of 114,000, almost double that of last year.

ACM Queue, a popular online magazine serving Software Engineering practitioners, generated more than 3.2 million downloads in FY24, up about 700,000 from FY23. *Queue* articles, which are freely available and focus on programming solutions and disruptive technologies, garner on average 10 citations per article

Other ACM's magazines—*eLearn*, *ACM Inroads*, and *Ubiquity*—also continue to draw impressive, expansive audiences online. *eLearn* magazine—ACM's online publication for e-learning research and practice—invites educators and training professionals from around the world to share their experiences and advice. *Ubiquity*, an online-only publication dedicated to advancing critical analysis and commentary, covers a wide array of issues associated with the IT profession, *ACM's Inroads* speaks to Computer Science educators worldwide via a quarterly print magazine covering the teaching challenges and innovations. Toward the end of FY24, two new EICs—Randy Connolly and Richard Blumenthal—were elected to replace outgoing EICs Margaret Hamilton and James Harland. Their three-year term begins in Sept. 2024.

Lastly, a new magazine dedicated to artificial intelligence research, practice, and more is also being discussed.

VII. ACM Journals

ACM publishes over 70 high-quality journals, including ACM journals, ACM Transactions, and ACM Research + Practice titles, across the full range of computing disciplines. Most of these titles are fully ACM-owned and published. ACM also publishes three journals in collaboration with IEEE: IEEE/ACM Transactions on Audio, Speech, and Language Processing; IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics; and IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking. The new Collective Intelligence journal, which published its first articles in FY23, is co-owned by ACM and the publisher SAGE, with SAGE

overseeing production and rights. The ACM/IMS Journal of Data Science, which published its first issues in FY24, is a collaboration between ACM and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics.

The ACM journals program has seen significant growth in the number of titles, submissions, and articles published in recent years. Submissions to non-PACM ACM journals have nearly tripled from FY15 to FY24, due to a combination of new journal launches and growth of the established titles, and the number of accepted articles has increased by more than 150% in the same period. The PACM program has also seen strong growth since launching in 2017. Citations have increased steadily across the journals portfolio.

ACM journals demonstrated strong performance in the latest Journal Citation Reports from Clarivate Analytics, released on June 20, 2024.

Individual highlights include ACM Computing Surveys, which received an all-time high impact factor of 23.8, up from 16.6 the year before, and placing it first out of the 143 journals in the Computer Science, Theory & Methods category.

Numerous ACM journals posted their highest impact factors to date, among them *ACM Transactions on Graphics* (TOG) at 7.8, placing it fifth of 131 journals in the Computer Science, Software Engineering category. *ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology* (TOSEM) also outdid all of its previous JCR performances, receiving an impact factor of 6.6, positioning it eighth of 131 titles in the Computer Science, Software Engineering category. Other ACM journals receiving their highest impact factors to date include *ACM Transactions on Multimedia Computing Communications and Applications* (TOMM) at 5.2, placing it in the first quartile in all three of its categories; *ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction* (TOCHI), with a record 4.8 impact factor and rankings of fifth of 32 titles in the Computer Science, Cybernetics category and 46 of 249 in the Computer Science, Information Systems category; *ACM Transactions on Interactive Intelligent Systems* (TiiS) at 3.6, placing it 72 of 197 in Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence; *ACM Transactions on Internet of Things* (TIOT) at 3.5 and 45 of 119 in Telecommunications, 83 of 249 in Computer Science, Information Systems, and 120 of 352 in Engineering, Electrical & Electronic; *ACM Transactions on Computing Education* (TOCE) at 3.2, placing it 15 of 85 titles in the Education, Scientific Disciplines category; *ACM Transactions on Reconfigurable Technology and Systems* (TRETs) at 3.1 and 19 of 59 in Computer Science, Hardware & Architecture; and *ACM Transactions on Privacy and Security* (TOPS) at 3.0 and 95 of 249 in Computer Science, Information Systems. *ACM Transactions on Quantum Computing* (TQC), which received its first impact factor in the latest release, had an impressive showing, with an impact factor of 3.7, placing it 25 of 143 (first quartile) in Computer Science, Theory & Methods and 12 of 26 (second quartile) in Quantum Science & Technology.

Other notable performances include *ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology* (TIST), with an impact factor of 7.2, placing it 18 of 249 titles in the Computer Science, Information Systems category and 27 of 197 in the Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence category; *ACM Transactions on Information Systems* (TOIS) at 5.4 and ranking 37 of 249 journals in the Computer Science, Information Systems category; *ACM Transactions on Human-Robot Interaction* (THRI) at 4.2 and 14 of 46 titles in the Robotics category; *ACM Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data* (TKDD) at 4.0, placing it in the first quartile of both of its categories; *ACM Transactions on Internet Technology* (TOIT) at 3.9, placing it 24 of 131 in Computer Science, Software Engineering and 66 of 249 in the

Computer Science, Information Systems; *ACM Transactions on Sensor Networks* (TOSN) at 3.9 and 38 of 119 in Telecommunications and 66 of 249 in Computer Science, Information Systems; *Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive Mobile Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies* (IMWUT) at 3.6, placing it 44 of 119 in Telecommunications, 78 of 249 in Computer Science, Information Systems, and 118 of 352 in Engineering, Electrical & Electronic; and *ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software* (TOMS) at 2.7 and 25 of 331 in Mathematics, Applied and 44 of 131 in Computer Science, Software Engineering.

Key projects in FY24 have included the selection and onboarding of a new production vendor, KGL, for half of the journals program; a ScholarOne tips and tricks session for EICs; nearing completion on ACM's new reviewer training gateway; a webinar series to educate EICs and journal admins about ACM's Open Access transition; active participation by numerous ACM EICs in the ACM Singapore Publications Workshop in November 2023; the development and adoption of a new journal sunsetting procedure; ongoing efforts to manage and fine-tune special issue guest editor ethics checks and to combat peer review misconduct; attending Society for Scholarly Publishing sessions, ScholarOne advisory group meetings and research integrity breakout sessions; liaising between editorial and technical teams; and initial work on an ACM-wide ongoing author survey.

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.

Seven new ACM Books titles were added in FY24:

- *Rendering History: The Women of ACM-W* by Gloria Townsend
- *Pick, Click, Flick! The Story of Interaction Techniques* by Brad Myers
- *Digital Dreams Have Become Nightmares* by Ronald Baecker with Jonathan Grudin
- *Spatial Gems 2* by John Krumm
- *From Algorithms to Thinking Machines* by Domenico Talia
- *The Societal Impacts of Algorithmic Decision-Making* by Manish Raghavan
- *Linking the World's Information: Essays on Tim Berners-Lee's Invention of the World Wide Web*, edited by James Hendler and Oshani Seneviratne

More than 300 ACM Books collections have been sold to institutions to date across Collections 1, 2, and 3, 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 and during FY24 there were 684 active ACM member subscriptions to the ACM Books program.

IX. International Conference Proceeding Series (ICPS)

In FY24, ICPS produced 296 Proceedings (242 in FY23) and 13,309 articles (10,095 in FY23) from more than 50 countries. The rejection rate in FY24 was 25% (33% in FY23).

A contract-based Managing Editor, Professor Rattikorn Hewett, was recruited to manage the application review process in May 2023. As a result, our average time from application to accept/reject decision has improved dramatically, to 3-4 weeks.

A new open access publishing model was introduced in January 2024 for all ICPS conferences where the Call for Papers was posted on the conference website after December 31, 2023. To support this change, a new workflow for payment of article processing charges has been implemented. This change in the ICPS model is a precursor to ACM's larger transition to OA at the end of 2025.