

Business Meeting SoCG 2005

The Annual Symposium on Computational Geometry 2005 was held June 6–8 in Pisa (Italy) at the IIT-CNR campus. Below are the minutes of the Business Meeting, held on June 7.

1. SoCG 2005

- Report from the Local Organizers: Beppe Liotta and Marco Pellegrini.

Beppe reported on several organizational issues regarding SoCG 2005. There were 120 participants this year, from 18 different countries. This number of participants is low compared to previous years; especially the attendance from the US (22 participants) was somewhat disappointing. This may be due to higher summer airfare and/or higher registration fees. Beppe and Marco also gave an overview of the finances, showing that SoCG 2005 broke even. Some participants expressed unhappiness that the organizers relied on a company for conference management and staffing, rather than using student volunteers. Marco replied that a company was necessary to process credit cards.

- Report from the Program Committee: Günter Rote.

The number of submissions to SoCG 2005 was (like in 2004) quite high, namely 141. Of those submissions, 41 were accepted, giving an acceptance ratio of 29%. Günter also gave various other statistics regarding the submitted and accepted papers,

This year, for the first time, the authors of the submitted papers were asked to fill out an electronic questionnaire, with general questions (regarding e.g. the submission procedure) and with questions about the submitted paper. Günter gave a brief overview of the responses. The complete questionnaire and response statistics are available at

<http://page.mi.fu-berlin.de/~rote/socg05/statistics/paperstatistics.html>

Following up on one of the questions from the questionnaire, there was a brief discussion about the submission format. Some people would prefer to have submissions in the same (double-column) format as required for the final manuscripts of the accepted papers. No conclusion was reached; the Steering Committee and next year's Program Committee will give this issue some more thought.

- Report from the Video and Multimedia Committee: Lutz Kettner.

This year there were 13 submissions in response to the Call for Videos and Multimedia—10 electronic videos, 2 Java applets, and 1 flash animation—of which 11 were accepted. The accepted submissions were published in an online proceedings at

<http://compgeom.poly.edu/acmvideos/socg05video/index.html>

Lutz also gave the download statistics for the online proceedings of the previous two years, and he shared some of his experiences with the submission process.

2. SoCG 2006

Next year, SoCG will be held June 5–7 in Sedona (USA). Joe Mitchell gave a short presentation on behalf of the local organizers, showing some beautiful images the conference location (Hilton Sedona) and its surroundings. Nina Amenta, who will co-chair the program committee with Otfried Cheong, presented the members of next year's committee. The chair of the video and multimedia committee will be Jack Snoeyink.

3. SoCG 2007

Four bids were made to host SoCG in 2007. One of the four options, presented by Ken Clarkson, was to join the Federated Computer Research Conference (FCRC). FCRC 2007 will take place in San Diego (USA), in the same location where FCRC 2003 was held. The second bid was by Otfried Cheong, who proposed to organize the meeting in Gyeongju (South Korea), a historic town that was the capital of Korea from the 7th to the 10th century. On behalf of Dave Mount, Joe Mitchell presented the third bid to have the meeting in Washington DC (USA), either in Old Town Alexandria or on the campus of the University of Maryland. Finally, Jack Snoeyink proposed to have the meeting in Chapel Hill (USA), on the UNC campus. A vote was taken, and already in the first round Gyeongju received the absolute majority, so SOCG 2007 will be held in Gyeongju (South Korea).

4. Other business

One issue, which came up briefly during the report of the pc chairs for SoCG 2005, was the low acceptance ratio of the conference. This had already been a hot topic in the corridors during the first days of the conference; several people felt that the high quality of many of the submission would warrant a higher acceptance ratio. Unfortunately, hardly any time was left to discuss this important issue at the business meeting. The Steering Committee and next year's PC chairs will try to see if more papers can be accepted if the overall quality and the number of submissions are as high as in the previous two years.