

ACM India's Activity Report

June 2012

Here is a brief report of the major activities undertaken by ACM India since its formation in 2009.

1. Formed the ACM India Council, liaised with ACM and setup mechanisms for membership
 - a. Formed the non-profit society ACM in India with its MoA and bylaws
 - b. Setup mechanism for payment of membership dues in Indian rupees
 - c. Held several physical and tele-conference council meetings
 - d. Formed an ACM-W India council to promote women in computing
2. Conducted highly successful ACM India Events in grand scale
 - a. Bangalore in 2010 with 3 Turing Award winners (Tony Hoare, Barbara Liskov, Raj Reddy), 3 ACM presidents (Wendy Hall, Maria Klawe, John White), and over 500 professionals and students in attendance. A meeting focussing on Women in Computing was also held the same day in the evening.
 - b. Hyderabad in 2011 with the current Turing Award winner (Chuck Thacker) and ACM Infosys Award winner (Eric Brewer), a panel on diversity, a presentation on the history of computing in India. Audience above 500 including students and professionals.
 - c. Pune in 2012 with ACM Infosys award winner (Frans Kaashoek), and other distinguished speakers including Narayana Murthy and Wendy Hall. Attendance was over 400 including students and professionals.
3. Co-sponsored Grace Hopper India conferences in December 2010 and 2011 along with the Anita Borg Institute. These were highly successful events attended by thousands of women professionals and students in the computing area.
4. ACM-W branch of ACM India has been setup to increase the participation of women and other under-represented sections in all spheres of computing in the country. An ACM-W India council was formed to give a push to these activities consisting of the following individuals:

Sheila Anand (Chair)
Sangeeta Bhattacharya
Jayanthi Sivaswamy
Vasundhara Puttagunta,
Maneesha Ramesh
Lipika Dey
Urvashi Rathod

5. Events focussed on women in computing were held as part of the ACM India events in 2010 and 2011. A regional celebration event was held in 2010 at Coimabtoire by the Amrita university. More such events are planned.
6. ACM has seen great growth in professional and student members, professional and student chapters, and in SIGs over the past 3 years. The membership numbers by the year are given below:

Membership Numbers	May 2009	May 2010	May 2011	May 2012
Professional	1847	2425	2652	2270
Student	1387	1448	1790	2185
Total	3234	3873	4442	4455

Today, there are 9 ACM Professional chapters, 55 student chapters, 5 SIG chapters, and 2 India-wide SIGs in ACM India today, starting with a single Professional chapter in 2009 when ACM India was started. The numbers are also growing steadily.

7. Several high quality conferences have been conducted in India with the sponsorship or cooperation of ACM. These include: ACM PPOPP at Bangalore in January 2010, ACM SIGCOMM in Delhi in August 2010, the World-Wide Web conference at Hyderabad in March 2011, the High Performance Computing (HiPC) conferences in 2009-2011, the Indian Conference on Computer Vision, Graphics, and Image Processing (ICVGIP) 2010, Indian Software Engineering Conference (ISEC) in 2010, 2011, and 2012, etc.
8. ACM India Best Doctoral Dissertation Award: ACM India worked closely with the ACM Awards Committee to setup this award. It recognizes the best doctoral dissertation produced from a degree-awarding institution based in India for the academic year running from August to July in the areas of Computer Science or those aligned closely with it. Students who successfully defended their PhD dissertation in an academic year -- running from August 1st of one year to July 31st of the next -- are eligible for the award. The award will consist of a plaque and a cash component of Rs 2,00,000. In case of a joint award, the award amount can be shared among the recipients.
9. First elections to the ACM India Council were conducted in May 2012. The nominations committee suggested one name each for the four office bearers, with provision from the membership at large to nominate others by write-in, and a panel of 10 candidates for the 6 council member positions. The following elected ACM India council will take office from July 1, 2012.

President:	P J Narayanan, IIT, Hyderabad
Vice-President:	Srinivas Padmanabhuni, Infosys
Secretary:	Mangala Gowri Nanda, IBM
Treasurer:	Shekhar Sahasrabudhe, Persistent
Past-President:	Anand Deshpande, Persistent
Members:	Sangeeta Bhattacharya, Intel Supratik Chakraborty, IIT, Mumbai Madhavan Mukund, CMI, Chennai Ganesan Ramalingam, Microsoft Research S. Ramesh, GM Research Rajeev Rastogi, Amazon

10. ACM India sponsored two students to the Turing 100 celebrations featuring 30 Turing Award winners that took place on June 15-16, 2012 in San Francisco. Nitin Saurabh of Math-Science Institute, Chennai and Abhisekh Sankaran of IIT, Mumbai were selected by an eminent jury from a pool of several dozen applicants for the travel award.
11. Subcommittees: ACM India has setup several subcommittees to coordinate different aspects of its activities. These include the Conference Subcommittee, Professional Chapters Subcommittee, Student Chapters Subcommittee, Education Subcommittee, Corporate Outreach Subcommittee.

ACM India is now well set to play a significant role in all aspects of computing in the country: academia, research, and profession.