



Banks of the Boneyard

A Journal of the Association
for Computing Machinery at UIUC
Editors: Jim Dobyns and Tom Begnel

Volume IV Number VIII

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What is ACM?

ACM is the Association for Computing Machinery. Founded in 1947, ACM is the oldest scientific society serving the computing community. ACM currently has more than 80,000 members nationwide.

The major purposes of the Association are:
(1) To advance the sciences and arts of information processing, (2) To promote the free interchange of ideas about the sciences and arts of information processing, and (3) To develop and maintain the integrity and competence of individuals engaged in the practices of the sciences and arts of information processing.

The University of Illinois-Urbana Student Chapter of the ACM is the official professional society of the Department of Computer Science. As one of the largest student chapters in the country, the UIUC ACM provides almost a dozen speakers at our general meetings each year. Corporate speakers concentrate on what it is like to work for their firms, and the opportunities and benefits available there. ACM are sponsoring a job fair this spring for permanent, summer, and co-op job opportunities. We also sponsor the Computer Science Open House every year and support Special Interest Groups (SIGs) focusing on a variety of computing areas.

Participation in the local chapter of the ACM provides an opportunity for students to develop and demonstrate leadership capabilities--an important factor to students in career development and professional growth. Whether you are a newly arrived student or someone looking for professional contacts, the ACM is the place to look.

-John Tullis

ACM Speakers

The following speakers are tentatively slated for presentations:

Feb 4th Gould
Feb 25th AT&T Bell Laboratories
Mar 11th NASA--Lewis Research Center
Apr 1st ACM General Elections
Apr 22nd Hewlett-Packard
May 6th Professor C. L. Liu

General meetings take place on Wednesdays and are held in 151 Electrical Engineering Building at 3:00 pm. After the speaker's lecture, members are invited to talk with the ACM executives and take part in the refreshments.

-Pete Hlavach

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Job Fair '87

The ACM will be having a Job Fair on Monday, February 16th. The Fair is open to all University students and will run from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm in Illini Union Rooms A, B, & C. Some of the twenty companies attending the Fair include:

AT&T	Convex Corp
Gould	Wang
Hewlett-Packard	GTE
Tellabs	Texas Instruments
Arthur Anderson	Kuck & Associates
E. I. du Pont	Rockwell

These companies will be looking for people interested in permanent jobs as well as internships and co-ops in the computer science and related fields.

-Pete Hlavach

Resume Book

ACM is providing complimentary resume books to all companies participating in our Job Fair on February 16th. Two books will be distributed: one for permanent employment, and another for summer internships and co-op appointments.

If you are an ACM member and would like your resume included in either book, use the standard Engineering Placement Office form available from EPO. Also, indicate in which book you would like your resume included (permanent placement or internship).

Your resume must be in my ACM Office mailbox (1204 West Springfield Avenue Suite 201) by 3:00 pm on Friday February 6th. Due to time constraints, no late resumes will be accepted. For more information, call the ACM Office at 333-5828.

-Laura Meravi

Tutor Referral Service

The Academic Office of the Department of Computer Science is attempting to start a tutor referral service. If you are interested in tutoring students in courses in which you have an expertise (they need not be only CS courses), please come to 114 DCL and fill out a referral form. These forms will then be shown to students seeking a tutor.

Since this is not a position paid by the University, each person should set his or her own fees, and directly charge the person tutored. This fee may be written on the referral form, or you can supply it to those students who contact you personally.

-Professor H. G. Friedman

Professor Symposium

The ACM sponsored Professor Symposium series features faculty members from the Computer Science and other related departments discussing their research and other topics of interest. The Symposiums will be presented at 3:00 pm in 115 DCL every Monday (except the first Monday of each month). The purpose of the Symposiums is to allow students to familiarize themselves with some of our professors and gain insight into what types of research are being conducted here at the University.

Feb 9th	Prof. C. L. Liu "Computational Complexity"
Feb 16th	To Be Announced
Feb 23rd	Prof. Geneva Belford "Distributed Database Systems"
Mar 9th	Prof. S. N. Kamin "Programming Languages"
Mar 16th	Prof. R. H. Campbell Topic To Be Announced
Mar 23rd	To Be Announced
Apr 13rd	To Be Announced
Apr 20th	To Be Announced
Apr 27th	To Be Announced

-Kim Griffin

Engineering Open House

Do people ignore you? Find you boring? Do you have to have a steak tied around your neck for your dog to pay attention to you? If you have answered "Yes" to any or all of the above, there is still hope for you yet. You can meet interesting and exciting people, impress your fellow peers, and if you are not careful you might even learn something. All you have to do is become involved with Engineering Open House 1987.

Student volunteers are desperately needed for a variety of projects. No computer expertise is required. The next EOH meeting is Wednesday, February 11th at 6:30 pm in the ACM Lounge (the third floor of 1204 West Springfield). For more information about EOH '87, contact Lisa Hartweck at the ACM Office (333-5828).

-Lisa Hartweck

MacNewsletter Staff

Would you like to write articles or make illustrations for the newsletter? *Banks of the Boneyard* is looking for more contributors. As the newsletter continues to expand, we need more and more columnists and graphic artists. You can write articles on just about any topic of interest to the ACM membership, ranging from technical reviews to interviews to investigative reporting.

If you are interested in working on the newsletter, call me (384-8444) or leave a message at the ACM Office (333-5828). Tell them Woodward and Bernstein sent you.

-Jim Dobyns

ACM Office and Lounge

The ACM Office will be officially open for the Spring 1987 semester beginning Monday, February 2nd. It is located in Suite 201 at 1204 West Springfield Avenue in Urbana (next to the CSO building and University High School). Officers and committee chairpersons will again

be staffing the Office from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Our telephone number is 333-5828. If no one answers, you can leave a message on the machine.

The ACM Study Lounge will be open during office hours for general use, and after hours for Special Interest Groups who have reserved it with me. The Lounge is located on the third floor of the building.

-Tony Alonso

Exam File

The ACM exam file needs to be filled with copies of your old exams. We are collecting copies of exams for any courses in CS and Math, as well as PHYCS 106-108 and CHEM 101-102. We would like to have copies of more recent exams in classes that have changed books, equipment, instructional formats, etc (i.e., CS 101, CS 121, CS 221, CS 257, CS 318, CS 323, and CS 325).

If you have any old exams you wish to donate, please call the ACM Office (333-5828). Once enough exams are collected, the procedure for using the exams will be announced.

-Tony Alonso

Electronic Music SIG

Last semester, SIGMUSIC, the Special Interest Group in electronic music, presented two tours of campus music facilities, including the CERL PLATO music lab, and Dr. Beauchamp's lab in the Music Building. We also had a presentation of multi-track recording using a microcomputer.

During spring semester we will arrange further demonstrations of computer-assisted composition and production, possibly including a tour of a completely computerized recording studio.

-Steve Glenner

Artificial Intelligence SIG

The Special Interest Group in Artificial Intelligence (SIGART) was formed late last semester in response to the growing interest in AI at UIUC. Our goals are to promote interest in AI (especially in the research that is being conducted here) and to provide communication between the various departments which are involved in AI research. Currently, most of our members are graduate and undergraduate students in CS; however, we are working toward including students from EE, ME, Psychology, Linguistics, etc.

This semester we plan to start a number of projects. These include a series of lectures by University faculty engaged in AI research, informal discussion groups, and an AI display at Engineering Open House. In addition, for those who are interested in learning LISP, we are thinking of starting some LISP workshops. These workshops provide hands-on experience with LISP and may lead to a group programming project. If you would be interested in this, please contact me.

The interest in AI at the University and the number of departments which are involved in AI related research are growing rapidly. With an increase in the money available for research, the addition of new faculty members, and the construction of the Beckman Institute, the future of AI at the University looks very promising. If you want to become involved in SIGART, are interested in any of the projects mentioned above, or would like more information on SIGART, please contact me (398-4940) or leave a message at the ACM Office (333-5828).

-Subutai Ahmad

Programming Languages SIG

Several faculty members have expressed an interest in forming yet another UIUC ACM Special Interest Group. This group, SIGPLAN, would be geared toward all aspects of programming languages.

The national ACM SIGPLAN is described as follows: "SIGPLAN, one of the oldest national

SIGs, is concerned with all aspects of programming languages and language processors. It disseminates both practical and theoretical work on programming methodology, language design and definition, principles and techniques of compiler implementation, teaching of programming languages, and standards for both general purpose and application-oriented languages."

Anyone interested in getting SIGPLAN started should contact Professor Reddy or Professor Kamin, or call the ACM Office (333-5828).

-Jim Dobyns

Microcomputer SIG

Do you own, use, plan to purchase or have any interest at all in microcomputers? Many people on campus do, and SIGMICRO is a newly formed Special Interest Group designed to provide the services that you want as people interested in microcomputing.

SIGMICRO was only established in the last several weeks of Fall 1986, so we are still in the formative stages, but our membership has already come up with some good ideas for services. The most popular ideas are: an electronic bulletin board (BBS), a newsletter, and tutoring in popular software packages. Other avenues include purchasing discounts for computer products and a public domain/shareware software library.

SIGMICRO's next meeting will be held during the evening of Monday, February 9th. The location and time is still undecided, so look for SIGMICRO flyers posted around campus or you can call the ACM Office (333-5828) for more information. It will also be announced at the first ACM general meeting on February 4th.

Get involved and become a member of one of the largest and most active ACM Special Interest Groups. No matter what your interests in microcomputers may be, please feel free to attend our next meeting.

-Mike Bruno

Engineering Open House

Do people ignore you? Find you boring? Do you have to have a steak tied around your neck for your dog to pay attention to you? If you have answered "Yes" to any or all of the above, there is still hope for you yet. You can meet interesting and exciting people, impress your fellow peers, and if you are not careful you might even learn something. All you have to do is become involved with Engineering Open House 1987.

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During spring semester we will arrange further demonstrations of computer-assisted composition and production, possibly including a tour of a completely computerized recording studio.

-Steve Glenner

UNIX/C SIG

SIGUUCP (Unix Users and C Programmers) has had a busy first semester. The goal of the Special Interest Group is to provide information to those students using the Unix operating system and/or the C programming language. Our workshops covered beginning and advanced Unix, the VI editor, use of pointers in C, the C programming environment, and use of the Bellmac assembler used for CS 221 and CS 331.

We have received over \$500 from SORF during the semester so that we can better advertise our workshops, and, in general, increase our exposure to the community of Unix and C users. Our current membership roster numbers about 55 people. Our general meetings have attempted to stress the importance of C and Unix in the workplace. The upcoming general meetings will have speakers from industry discussing current trends in C and Unix.

The following is a list of events tentatively scheduled for Spring 1987:

Feb 4th	Beginning Unix
Feb 11th	General Meeting
Feb 18th	Pointers in C
Feb 25th	Debugging
Mar 4th	Advanced Unix
Mar 11th	General Meeting
Mar 25th	Advanced VI Editor
Apr 1st	BellMAC Architecture
Apr 8th	General Meeting
Apr 15th	Advanced Unix--Shells
Apr 22nd	The C Environment
Apr 29th	To Be Announced
May 6th	General Meeting

All meetings and workshops will be at 7:00 pm in 115 DCL unless otherwise announced. For more information about SIGUUCP, come to a meeting or workshop, or call the ACM Office (333-5828).

-Dan Weber

Computer Graphics SIG

Last fall, a new Special Interest Group, SIGGRAPH (Computer Graphics), was formed to promote the area of graphics within computer

science. This group grew very rapidly and sponsored a few talks during the latter half of the semester including one on fractals presented by the SIGGRAPH's faculty sponsor, Prof. Don Hearn, as well as one on graphics and video, plus an evening of videotapes from the national SIGGRAPH meetings.

The upcoming semester should be very exciting as SIGGRAPH continues to grow and establish itself. The first item of the semester will be getting Engineering Open House projects underway. Then comes a full day of graphics at the ACM national convention in St. Louis in February. As usual, speakers will be lined up for the entire semester.

Many leadership opportunities are available within SIGGRAPH, including EOH representation, speakers and special event coordination, ACM representation, and many others. New membership forms will be made available at the beginning of the semester. The first meeting for Spring 1987 will be Monday, February 9th at 4:00 pm in 239 DCL. Please plan to attend as the start of the semester brings several important events you won't want to miss. For more information, call David Trant (359-0742 or 333-1631) or the ACM Office (333-5828).

-David Trant

Social Events

The number of people active in ACM social events has increased tremendously just within the last semester. Our ice cream pigout at Delight's on Green Street went very well. Later in the semester, ACM members got together for a pizza party at Willie's Pub on Springfield Avenue in Champaign. Every Friday at 4:00 pm, many ACM executives and members occupy two large tables at Murphy's Pub on Green Street--now an ACM tradition.

Our final event of the year was the "Friends of ACM Luncheon." ACM executives and Department of Computer Science professors and secretaries got together at the China Inn Restaurant in Urbana for some great-tasting Chinese food! The "Friends" luncheon used to be an annual event but has been expanded to once

to do things in a big way. We are sponsoring a Campus Job Fair on Monday, February 16th. It will be in Illini Union Rooms A, B, and C all day from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be served. We already have twenty confirmed corporate reservations, and I personally am hoping for another twenty to agree to come before the big day. These companies range from corporate giants like AT&T, to supercomputer companies like Convex, to software companies like Wordlink; local firms such as Kuck and Associates, or local branches of national companies like Gould; and even non-computer corporations like State Farm and Arthur Anderson. ACM members should submit a copy of either their own personally formatted resume or the standard resume form provided by the Engineering Placement Office to our Office by Friday February 6th. All companies attending the Job Fair will receive a resume book with the resumes of active members.

Engineering Open House is coming up in several weeks and we would like as much assistance as our members can provide. The Special Interest Groups will play a large part in our participation in this event. People come from all over the state to visit, so we want to interest them, entertain them, and make them feel welcome. The SIGs themselves offer much that is interesting to our members. These groups offer activities and projects in the areas of graphics, programming languages, computer music, computer networks, UNIX and C, artificial intelligence, and microcomputing. Most of these groups have faculty sponsorship, and are a good way to meet students and faculty with similar interests.

We are offering some new concepts this spring. One is a Professor Symposium series, in which faculty members will briefly present aspects of their work, their interests, and current opportunities available for student participation in their areas of research and interest here at the University. Another concept is for SIGs to develop group projects under faculty sponsorship, possibly for independent study credit. Another area we would like to develop is the idea of offering a tutoring service. This will allow people to offer tutoring services in various areas for a rate agreed upon between the tutor and the tutoree. ACM will act as a

Bits and Pieces

Macintosh:



The World's Ugliest Computer

-Artist Unknown

coordinator of the service. Your suggestions for new possible programs and activities will be respected and are always welcomed.

The ACM offers excellent opportunities to meet other people and get involved in group projects and activities. This is a very good way to develop leadership, management, and organizational skills that you will need so much once you leave school. Elections will be held April 1st, so if you want an elected or appointed office you should get involved as soon as possible to prove yourself to those of us who are running things now. Resume padders need not apply. You may get elected or appointed, but if you don't perform you will be booted. Yes, we fire people here, which is one of the reasons that this organization has improved so much this year.

If you want to get actively involved in a professional organization that actually does things, things that others said couldn't be done, then you want to get actively involved with us. We fully intend that this organization be viewed as the best professional engineering organization on campus, both this year and in the years ahead.

-John Tullis

Calendar of Events

Wed Feb 2nd ACM Office Reopens.

Wed Feb 4th ACM General Meeting: Gould.
3:00 pm 151 EEB.

Wed Feb 4th SIGUUCP Workshop:
Beginning Unix.
7:00 pm 115 DCL.

Fri Feb 6th Resume Book submissions due.
3:00 pm ACM Office.

Mon Feb 9th Professor Symposium:
Prof. C. L. Liu.
3:00 pm 115 DCL.

Mon Feb 9th SIGGRAPH Meeting.
4:00 pm 239 DCL.

Mon Feb 9th SIGMICRO Meeting.
7:00 pm 115 DCL.

Wed Feb 11th SIGUUCP Meeting.
7:00 pm 115 DCL.

Mon Feb 11th EOH/CS Open House Meeting.
6:30 pm ACM Lounge.

Mon Feb 16th ACM Job Fair.
All Day Illini Union Rooms ABC.

Mon Feb 16th Professor Symposium.
To Be Announced.
3:00 pm 115 DCL.

Wed Feb 18th SIGUUCP Workshop.
Pointers in C.
7:00 pm 115 DCL.

Mon Feb 23rd Professor Symposium.
Prof. Geneva Belford.
3:00 pm 115 DCL.

Wed Feb 25th ACM General Meeting.
AT&T Bell Laboratories.
3:00 pm 151 EEB.

Wed Feb 25th SIGUUCP Workshop.
Debugging in UNIX.
7:00 pm 115 DCL.

ACM @ UIUC
240 Digital Computer Lab
1304 West Springfield Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801