Collaboration for the Future

Hironori Kasahara, 2018 IEEE Computer Society President

In 2018, the IEEE Computer Society (CS) leaders, volunteers, and staff collaborated to improve both the satisfaction of CS members and the sustainability of the Society. This joint effort dramatically improved CS finances to the extent that they are now healthy.

The IEEE Computer Society (CS) started 2018 by implementing various action items to address financial challenges, most of which were approved in the November 2017 Board of Governors (BoG) meeting, with the Executive Committee (ExCom) and BoG members and staff. These include

› reducing the number of BoG members from 21 to 18 by changing the rules to elect six new members every year, which was applied starting with the 2018 election
› reducing the number of in-person BoG meetings from three to two in 2018 by having online BoG meetings, which allows us to make prompt decisions

› simplifying the June 2018 CS annual awards ceremony without professional support while maintaining the greatest respect for the award winners through posting their articles on the CS homepage and CS social network sites Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn and inviting some of the winners to CS conferences, which attracted more participants to these gatherings
› considering extending the length of the presidential term to two years, which was discussed in meetings of the Constitution and Bylaw Committee and Ad Hoc Committee
› changing all in-person program board meetings to online from 2018, although the CS would still support expenses for meetings without travel expenses, for example, meetings during conferences
› merging or sunsetting some CS publications
› instituting overlength page charges while relaxing conditions for authors and editorial boards, compared to the model that was approved in the November 2017 BoG meeting, to foster special issues in transactions collaborating with conferences
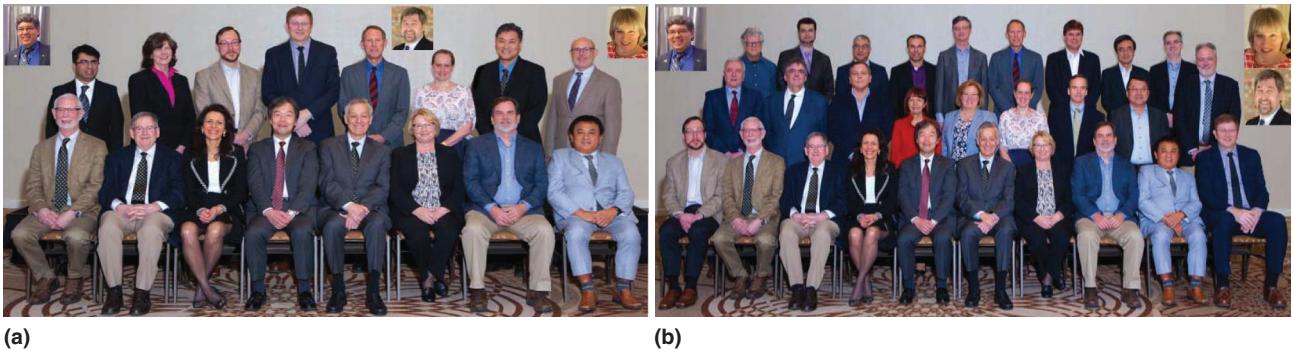› starting a new surplus distribution system for conferences that improved their financial condition and flexibility

FIGURE 1. The members of the 2018 IEEE CS (a) ExCom and (b) BoG.

› recommending that CS conferences use CS Conference Support Services

› developing educational materials with the IEEE

› suspending TechIgnite and Rock Star events.

Though these emergency actions were quite difficult and painful for everyone connected with the CS, including members, authors, volunteers, ExCom and BoG members, and CS staff, they were necessary for CS activities to continue.

In terms of the CS's future, the 2018 CS ExCom, BoG, and staff proceeded with a firm determination to make the Society self-sustaining. An intermediate single-year financial report at the end of December 2018 was much better than expected, the accounts having been brought into the black. Indeed, some well-operated conferences that had not yet closed were expected to further improve the balance sheet. These excellent results were obtained through many positive discussions in Ad Hoc Committee meetings and in various other committee confabs, including those of Future Growth, Membership, Publications and Conferences, Diversity, *Computer*, and Presidential Term, all of which collaborated in the vision.

Among the 2018 ExCom members [Figure 1(a)] are 2018 President

Hironori Kasahara, 2019 President Cecilia Metra, 2017 President Jean-Luc Gaudiot, First Vice President of Publications Gregory T. Byrd, Second Vice President and Secretary Dennis J. Frailey, Vice President for Professional and Educational Activities Andy T. Chen, Vice President for Standards Activities Jon Rosdahl, Vice President for Technical and Conference Activities Hausi A. Müller, Vice President for Member and Geographic Activities Forrest J. Shull, Treasurer David Lomet, 2017–2018 IEEE Division VIII Director Dejan S. Milojicic, 2018–2019 IEEE Division V Director John W. Walz, 2018 IEEE

Leila De Floriani, David S. Ebert, Jill I. Gostin, William Gropp, Sumi Helal, Avi Mendelson, Andy T. Chen, John D. Johnson, Sy-Yen Kuo, David Lomet, Dimitrios Serpanos, Forrest J. Shull, and Hayato Yamana. One seat was open after Ann Demarle left the BoG in 2018.

For their devoted efforts to the CS, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to these members and all of the CS staff persons, including Associate Executive Director of Governance Anne Marie Kelly, Director of Membership Eric Berkowitz, Director of Finance Sunny Hwang, and former director Evan Butterfield, who retired in 2018.

> In addition to addressing our financial challenges, various efforts to improve the overall experience of CS members and the computer-related community were undertaken.

Division VIII Director-Elect Elizabeth L. Burd, and Executive Director Melissa Russell, who joined the CS on 22 June 2018 after the retirement of Angela Burgess.

Among the members of the 2018 Board of Governors [Figure 1(b)] are Sven Dietrich, Fred Douglis, Vladimir Getov, Bruce M. McMillin, Kunio Uchiyama, Stefano Zanero, Saurabh Bagchi,

In addition to addressing our financial challenges, various efforts to improve the overall experience of CS members and the computer-related community were undertaken. The June awards dinner was produced by BoG members, CS Awards Chair Paolo Montuschi, and staff, conferring honors upon the award winners, as shown in the photos in Figure 2(a) (though the names of
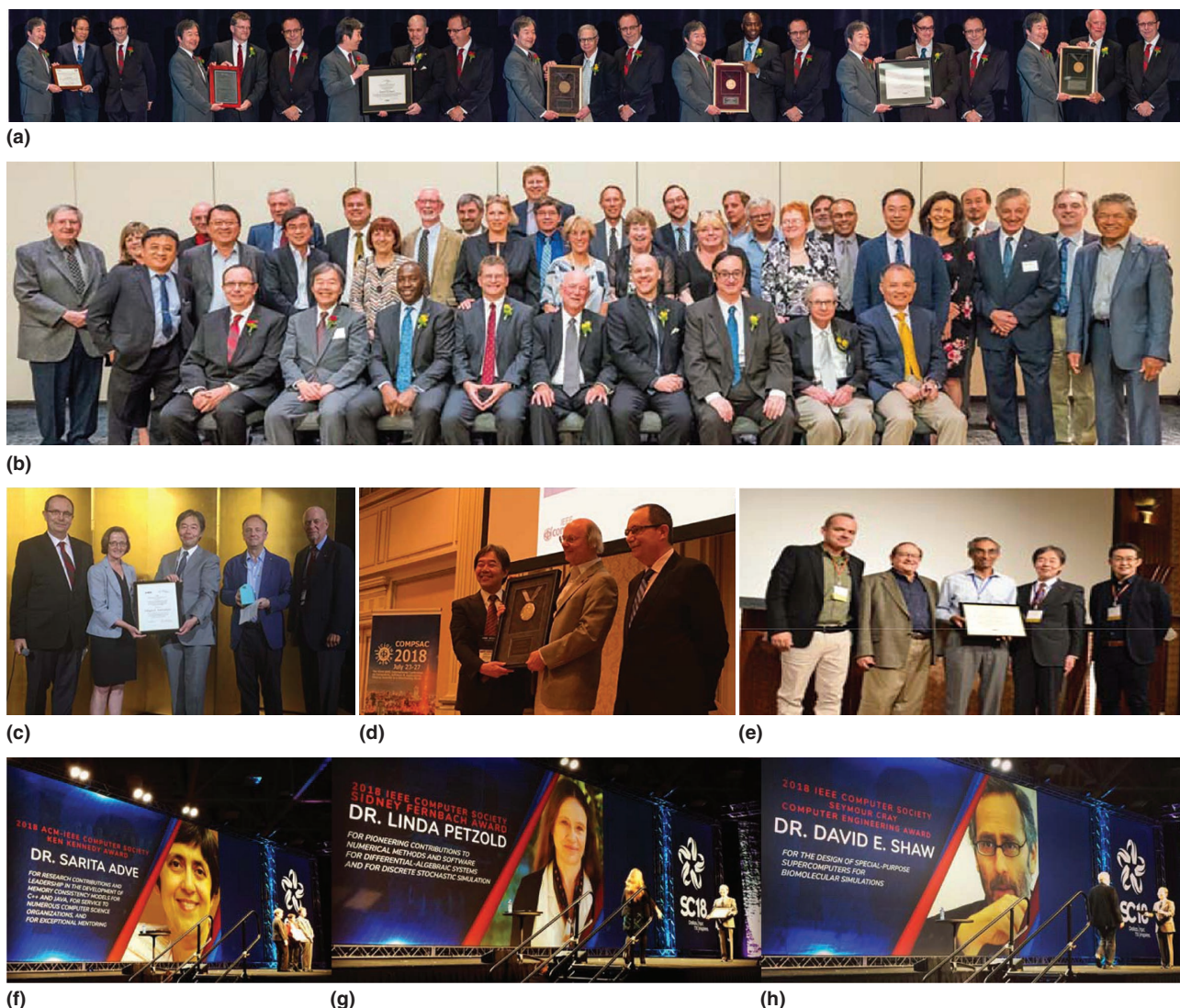
FIGURE 2. The IEEE CS awards ceremonies with the 2018 CS president: (a) various honorees at the June CS awards dinner; (b) CS award winners with their families at the BoG affair; (c) receiving the Technical Achievement Award at COMPSAC in Tokyo; (d) accepting the Computer Pioneer Award at COMPSAC in Tokyo; (e) receiving the B. Ramakrishna Rau Award at the microarchitecture conference in Fukuoka, Japan; and (f)–(h) awards being conferred at the Supercomputing Conference in Dallas.

the winners can't be mentioned in this report because of space limitations). In an enjoyable and friendly atmosphere during the June award ceremonies, we took for the first time a group photo [Figure 2(b)] with the families of the winners.

Also, the winners of the Computer Pioneer Award and the Technical Achievement Award were invited to COMPSAC 2018, held in July in Tokyo and supported by the CS Japan Chapter, Tokyo government, MEXT Waseda University Super Global University Project,

and industry organizations. Their awards were presented during the conference, as shown in Figure 2(c) and (d). Most participants in recent COMPSACs attended the award winners' keynote speeches and the awards ceremony. A long line formed after the ceremony to take photos with the Computer Pioneer Award winner, Dr. Bjarne Stroustrup.

In October, a ceremony to bestow the B. Ramakrishna Rau Award [Figure 2(e)] took place during the 51st IEEE/ACM International Symposium

on Microarchitecture, held in Fukuoka, Japan, with a record number of participants. In November, a conferral of the Ken Kennedy, Sidney Fernbach, and Seymour Cray Awards [Figure 2(f)–(h)] was performed at the 30th Supercomputing Conference 2018, held in Dallas, which drew a record-high 13,000 participants. The recipients were also highlighted in articles on the CS homepage (https://www.computer.org/) and on CS social network sites like LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

FIGURE 3. Examples of collaboration within the IEEE: (a) some participants in a March meeting at the IEEE Tokyo office involving Region 10, the Tokyo Section, WIE, and the Japan Council; (b) participants at a July meeting at COMPSAC that included a Young Professionals panel, IEEE directors, and CS presidents; (c) attendees at a November meeting in Moscow with the CS Russia Chapter; and (d) the ceremony launching IEEE Eta Kappa Nu Japan for the Waseda University Student Chapter Mu Tau at COMPSAC on 25 July 2018.

by award-winning CS writers Michael Martinez and Lori M. Cameron.

Discussions by the CS Restructuring Committee in 2017 and the BoG in 2018, based on reports from several ad hoc committees, recommended further collaboration inside the IEEE and with international organizations, including CS sister societies and, especially, Region 10 (Asia and Pacific), where membership has been rapidly increasing.

Stemming from these recommendations, the CS held meetings and/or events (some of which are noted in Figure 3) with members of Region 10; the Japan Council; Tokyo Section; CS Japan; Kansai and Fukuoka Chapters, IEEE Women in Engineering; IEEE Young Professionals, CS Russia Chapter, Russian Academy of Sciences; and IEEE Standards Association. In addition, with IEEE Eta Kappa Nu and Waseda University CS student members, the first Eta Kappa Nu Student Chapter in Japan was founded during COMPSAC 2018.

In terms of collaboration with like-minded international organizations, the CS president attended meetings of and/or gave keynote speeches at the annual conventions of sister societies or related bodies (Figure 4). Those groups included the Chinese Computer Federation, Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ), Korean Institute of Information Scientists and Engineers, and South East Asia Regional Computer Confederation, including the Hong Kong Computer Society, Indonesian Computer Society, Malaysian National Computer Confederation, Philippines Computer Society, Singapore Computer Society, Computer Association of Thailand, Sri Lanka Computer Society of the Republic of China, and Australian Computer Society.

Also, the CS president met with the president and vice president of Siam University and the vice president of King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, both in Bangkok, Thailand. In addition, a symposium on

the future of computing technology, celebrating Dr. David Kuck, a recipient of the Okawa Award and the 2011 CS Computer Pioneer Award, was organized by top researchers from the CS Japan Chapter, Special Technical Community on MultiCore, Okawa Foundation, and the Japanese government [Figure 4(c)]. The CS president spoke in October, along with the ACM president and CEO, at the Chinese Computer Federation's China National Computer Congress in Hangzhou, China. See photos at http://cncc2018 .ccf.org.cn/cms/news/100000/000000 0001/2018/10/25/548b1dc994f84c12a 9b8dc098 d481cec.shtml.

Collaborations were launched with industry giants like Baidu and Tencent and with international organizations, such as the UN's International Telecommunication Union, with which CS can partner to deliver educational video materials for K–12 students around the world. The CS also formed an association with the

FIGURE 4. Examples of CS cooperation with international organizations in 2018: (a) a meeting with leaders of the Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ) in March at the IPSJ convention in Tokyo; (b) participants from Japan (IPSJ), China (Chinese Computer Federation), and Korea (Korean Institute of Information Scientists and Engineers) meeting in March at Waseda University, Tokyo; (c) members of a symposium involving the Okawa Foundation, CS Japan Chapter, Special Technical Community on MultiCore, and the Japanese government; (d) signing a memorandum of understanding in May with the International Telecommunication Union for the AI for Good Foundation; (e) after signing a memorandum of understanding with Baidu in July in Tokyo; (f) participants in a Tencent/Waseda University symposium in November, moderated by the CS China office at Waseda University, Tokyo; and (g) a panel at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow last November, celebrating 70 years of computer science in Russia.

Russian Academy of Sciences, which recently celebrated 70 years of computer science in Russia.

Other efforts have also continued, such as a point accumulation system for volunteers, who can accumulate points from the voluntary activities they contribute to Societies, committees, conferences, publications, education, membership, and standards in any IEEE Society. And we have proposed to the IEEE that these volunteers be given annual and/or lifetime honors for such service. A related activities concept was already launched by the IEEE Young Professionals as a micro-volunteering initiative, with which the CS would like to join. Discussions with editors-in-chief and technical committees on collaboration with publications and conferences have also started. I hope these efforts will make a great deal of progress in the next generation of CS activities.

Finally, I would like to thank all CS members, volunteers, and people related with CS activities inside and outside the IEEE for their kind support. I am proud to pass the baton to 2019 CS President Cecilia Metra. This will be a good year for the CS with her and her strong leadership team. 🄲

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