



ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY

Hong Kong Chapter

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2 Chairman's Remarks

This is the last newsletter from the 1995/96 ACM-HK executive committee. I have enjoyed serving as the chairman for this year and am looking forward to working with the new chairman and the new executive committee members (both to be determined) starting November 1996. In this issue, I shall present an annual report including a summary of the 95/96 activities as well as a 95/96 financial statement (by our treasurer). Note that the same report has been submitted to the ACM headquarter.

Before I leave my chairmanship, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to all ACM-HK 1995/96 executive committee members. They are:

Ada Fu (Membership)	CSE, CUHK	adafu@cs.cuhk.hk
Kwok-Kit Ho (Treasurer)	ICS, CUHK	kk-ho@cuhk.hk
Benjamin Kao (SPC'96 Director)	CS, HKU	kao@cs.hku.hk
Boon-Toh Low (SPC'96 Head Judge)	SEEM, CUHK	btlow@se.cuhk.hk
Kam-Yiu Lam	CS, CityU	cskylam@cityu.edu.hk
Dik Lee (V. Chair)	CS, HKUST	dlee@cs.ust.hk
Ho-Fung Leung (Secretary)	CSE, CUHK	lhf@cs.cuhk.hk
Qing Li	CS, HKUST	qing@cs.ust.hk
Judy Lo	Ling-Nan College	lojudy@ln.edu.hk
Hing-Yin Mak	CS, HKBU	jhymak@comp.hkbu.hk
Antonio Si	CS, HKPU	csasi@comp.polyu.edu.hk

Without their support, ACM-HK would have not been so successful this year. Further, I trust that the above colleagues whether as an executive member or not will continue to fully support ACM-HK in the future.

3 Membership Update

We shall soon send out a new round of new registration form based on the 1996/97 list of ACM members in HK that we received from ACM HQ (USA). Please complete and return the registration form once you have received it. As soon as we collected all the completed forms we shall update our membership database.

4 Short Course

Since May, we have organised 3 short technical courses in the topic of "Development of Business Applications on Internet". Two were offered to the general public at HKUST and one to the Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd. at CUHK. All courses have received high rating in the evaluation. In the mean time, we are planning other new courses.

Furthermore, I would like to remind our members that if your company or yourself would like to learn about certain technical topics, please let us know. We shall try our best to organise a course/seminar for you. It is noteworthy that there are many experienced professors in ACM-HK and hence, we have no shortage of expertise in technical course/seminar organisation.

5 1996 Scholastic Programming Contest

The 1996 Scholastic Programming Contest was held in HKU on June 29, 1996. Also, the Chinese Checkers Competition took place concurrently. This year HKU Computer Science Department, Microsoft (HK), Hewlette Packard (HK) and Comtech Computer and Electronics Co. supported this event. The 3 commercial supporters have donated many valuable prizes to the winners of the two competitions.

The 1996 Scholastic Programming Contest was hosted by the Department of Computer Science, HKU. This year the winner of the Contest is HKUST and the second runner-up is CUHK. They will represent Hong Kong to compete in the 1996 ACM Far East Regional Programming Contest in the National Sun Yet-sen University, Kaoshiung, Taiwan on November 7-8, 1996. We take this opportunity to wish them good luck.

There are 6 competitors in this year's Chinese Checkers Competition. The competition was held in the podium of the Chow Yei Ching building, HKU. It was very exciting and have attracted many spectators. The champion went to Mr. Chung Kim Hang, HKUST and the first and second runner-up went to Mr. Wong Wing Kin, HKUST and Mr. Ng Hin Kwong, CUHK.

It is worth noting that the Department of Computer Science, Polytechnic University of HK, has agreed to host the 1997 Scholastic Programming Contest and Chinese Checkers Competition. Dr. Antonio Si will be the organising committee chairman of the event.

6 1996-97 ACM-HK Executive Committee

We are now accepting nomination for the candidacy of the 1996-97 ACM-HK Executive Committee. A proper nomination must be supported by at least one nominator who is a member of ACM living in Hong Kong. Also, the nominee himself/herself must be an ACM member living in Hong Kong.

If you think your colleague can help in the running of ACM-HK, please support and encourage him/her to join us and then send us a mail (electronically via acm-hk@cs.cuhk.edu.hk or by post).

7 1995-96 ACM-HK Annual Activities Report

1995/96 is a fruitful and an open year for ACM-HK. It is fruitful because through the organisation of three technical short courses, we have earned ourselves some revenue. This revenue can be used for the future development of our institution as well as for the organisation of social and business activities in the coming years.

As far as "openness" is concerned, we have done a number of things to draw ourselves closer to our local members and also made ourselves known to the public. We have started the ACM-HK quarterly newsletter since the end of last year. This enables our members to know more about our local and international activities. We have also produced the ACM-HK member database. This can help a member establish contact easily with other fellow ACM-HK members. Furthermore, our public profile has been increased through the introduction of the ACM-HK home-page. We have also publicised ourselves through the organisation of three technical short courses on "Developing Business Applications on Internet" as well as through the collaborative organisation of 6 international conferences, namely:

- CHI'96, ACM Conference on Human Factors and Computing Systems, Vancouver, BC, Canada, April 13-18, 1996 (home page: <http://info.acm.org/coe/e1000159.html>)
- 7th International HKCS Database Workshop, Shangri-La Hotel, Hong Kong, May 24-25, 1996.
- ICDCS'96, 16th International Conference on Distributed Computing Systems, HKUST, Hong Kong, May 27-30, 1996 (home page: <http://www.cs.ust.hk/Postings/ICDCS.html>)
- COCOON'96, 2nd Annual International Computing and Combinatorics Conference, HKU, Hong Kong, June 17-19, 1996 (home page: <http://www.cs.hku.hk/cocoon96.html>)
- ISAS'96, International Conference on Information Systems Analysis and Synthesis, County Conventional Center, Orlando, USA, July 22-26, 1996 (home page: <http://www.techexpo.com/events/isas96/isas96.html>)
- ICONIP'96, International Conference on Neural Information Processing, HK Conventional and Exhibition Center, Hong Kong September 24-27, 1996 (home page: <http://www.cs.cuhk.hk/iconip96>)

Notice that four of the above conferences were held in Hong Kong. The chairman of ACM-HK has participated in their banquets and took those opportunities to tell others about ACM-HK activities. In addition, in ICONIP'96 an ACM-HK promotion booth was set up.

The chairman has represented HK chapter to attend the ACM Asia Pacific Regional meeting in March'96 at Singapore. In the meeting, he shared with chairmen from other countries, including Australia, Thailand, India, Taiwan, Japan, New Zealand and Korea, the difficulties ACM-HK faced in running the organisation and brought back many constructive ideas. Furthermore, ACM-HK was charged by the HQ the mission of introducing ACM to the mainland China.

On the whole, 1995/96 has been a successful year. The success did not come easy. It involved the hard work and creativity of the ACM-HK executive committee as well as the support of all our members. I believe that our members, executive and ordinary alike, can keep this attitude up and this will lead to a strong and successful ACM-HK.

8 1995-96 ACM-HK Annual Financial Report

INCOME

Balance carried forward	38,619.50
Sponsorship	6,000.00
ACM Seminars	63,991.44
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SUB-TOTAL	108,610.94

EXPENSES

Programming Contest	-19,777.30
Seminar Expenses	-16,500.00
EXCO Meetings	-1,004.00
Mailing and Stationary	-1,631.70
Home Page Development	-600.00
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SUB-TOTAL	-39,513.00

TOTAL INCOME	108,610.94
TOTAL EXPENSES	-39,513.00
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TOTAL	HK\$ 69,097.94

In words: We shall have sixty nine thousand and ninety seven dollars and ninety four cent carried over for 1996/97.