Candidate for Chair

Maarten de Rijke
University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:
Ph.D., University of Amsterdam, 1993, Theoretical Computer Science.

Professional Experience:
Director, Center for Creation, Content and Technology, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2009 – Present;
Director, Intelligent Systems Lab Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2008 – Present;
Professor of Computer Science, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2004 – Present.

Professional Interest:
Information retrieval; Text mining; Social media analysis.

ACM Activities:
PC Co-chair, SIGIR 2013;
Associate Editor, ACM TOIS, SIGIR, 2010 – Present;
Associate Editor, ACM TOCL, 1999 – 2003;

STATEMENT

SIGIR continues to be a strong and healthy SIG with a broad base in academic and industrial research. In recent years we have begun to address two difficult but important issues: accessibility (of data and computational resources) and reproducibility (of methods, experiments and results). I believe these issues are important to our community for a number of reasons: we need to facilitate a regular influx of new research groups; society imposes increasing demands on transparency on us as scientists; and reproducibility touches on the very foundations of our field. As Chair of SIGIR my agenda will be to help the SIG move forward on both of these dimensions, as follows:

(1) Lobby for increased access to data and computational facilities for lesser resourced research groups in our field.
(2) Bridge the gap between differing perspectives on the issues of reproducibility of methods, experiments and results in our community by promoting the creation of broadly supported and adopted policies.
Candidate for Chair

Charles L. A. Clarke
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:
Ph.D., University of Waterloo, 1996, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:
Professor, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada, 2009 – Present;
Associate Professor, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada, 2002 – 2009;
Assistant Professor, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada, 1999 – 2002.

Professional Interest:
Information Retrieval; Web Search; Text Data Mining; Sponsored Search; XML Retrieval.

ACM Activities:
SIGIR Conference Program Co-Chair, SIGIR, 2014;
SIGIR Conference Program Co-Chair, SIGIR, 2007;
SIGIR Conference General Co-Chair, SIGIR, 2003.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:
Co-Editor-in-Chief, Information Retrieval, 2010 – Present.

Awards Received:
ACM: SIGIR Best Paper (with Mark Smucker), 2012;

Other: ECIR Best Student Paper (with student Stefan Buettcher), 2006; GI Best Student Paper (with student C Latulipe and two others), 2006.

STATEMENT

While the main SIGIR conference is consistently well run, I have heard concerns from various members regarding the operation of some of the other conferences that we directly sponsor, or that are held in cooperation with SIGIR. As SIGIR chair, I will work to improve and standardize reviewing procedures across all of these conferences, bringing them up to the level we have come to expect from the main SIGIR conference. The quality of research submitted to our conferences is very high, and researchers in our area expect to have their work reviewed consistently and carefully by other experts. I have also heard concerns about the quality and affordability of some conference venues, and I will work to ensure a balance between these factors.
Over its history, SIGIR has been an extremely well run SIG, with solid finances and an excellent record of service to the information retrieval community. Working with the other members of the executive committee, I intend to continue and build upon this record. I am particularly proud of our efforts to support student conference travel, and I hope we can expand on these efforts going forward.
Candidate for Vice Chair

Andrew Trotman
University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

**BIOGRAPHY**

**Academic Background:**
Ph.D., University of Otago, 2007, Computer Science.

**Professional Experience:**
Associate Professor, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, 2013 – Present;
Senior Lecturer, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, 2009 – 2013;
Lecturer, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, 2006 – 2009.

**Professional Interest:**
Search Engine Efficiency and Effectiveness; Hypertext Link Discovery; Focused Information Retrieval; Evaluation; Compression.

**ACM Activities:**
Secretary, SIGIR, 2010 – Present.

**Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:**
Steering Committee, INEX, 2008 – Present;
Co-chair, INEX, 2007 – 2010;

**STATEMENT**

The Information Retrieval community is a unique friendly and sharing community, and SIGIR plays an important role in this. It brings together researchers interested in all aspects of our field, from ranking to user interfaces, from theory to machine learning. IR is fascinating because it draws from many aspects of Computer Science. It is a pleasure to work in this community because we work together towards a common goal.

But communities need organisation. Along with excellent colleagues I have enjoyed successfully chairing 5 SIGIR workshops, 2 SIGIR Doctoral Consortia, INEX (2007-2010), ADCS 2012, and soon SIGIR 2014. As a participant I’ve enjoyed SIGIR since I first attended in 1997 while working for a search engine company in the UK; and continue to attend as a New Zealand academic.
As Vice Chair I will draw on my experience as the current SIGIR Secretary as well as my commercial and academic experiences over the last 20 years. I will continue to help SIGIR help others, and I will uphold the high standards for which SIGIR is known. This is an opportunity for me to thank the community for its support and I would be honoured if you would vote for me.
Candidate for Vice Chair

Yoelle Maarek
Yahoo! Israel Labs Ltd., Haifa, Israel

**BIOGRAPHY**

Academic Background:

Professional Experience:
Senior Research Director - Head of Yahoo! Research Israel, Yahoo! Labs, Haifa, Israel, 2009 – Present;
Engineering Director - Head of Google Haifa Engineering Center, Google Inc., Haifa, Israel, 2006 – 2009;
Department Group Manager, Search and Collaboration technologies, Distinguished Engineer, IBM Research, Haifa, Israel, 1989 – 2006.

Professional Interest:
Information Retrieval; Web Search; Web data mining; Web experiences.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:
Governor, Technion Board of Governors, 2006 – Present.

**STATEMENT**

I have been an ACM Distinguished Scientist since 2010. I have been conducting IR research in the industry since my first SIGIR publication in 1989, and been active in the Web IR community since the early days of the Web. In all my industry positions, at IBM Research, Google and currently at Yahoo! Labs, I systematically encouraged my teams to publish at ACM conferences. I have contributed to many ACM conferences, serving as AC/SPC or PC chair at SIGIR, ECIR, WSDM, and WWW conferences. As Vice-chair of SIGIR, I consider that my primary goal will be to assist the chair in every task in which I could help. One additional goal will be for me to use my multi-company industry experience to help find a solution for the fair use of search data, (e.g., make more data available to the academic community, agree on guidelines for usage of proprietary data). This topic has been extensively discussed in the SIGIR community, with no clear consensus yet. I understand the time commitments that this position requires and confirm that I am prepared to honor them, with the support of my employer, Yahoo! Labs.
Candidate for Vice Chair

Luo Si
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA

**BIOGRAPHY**

**Academic Background:**
Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University, 2006, Language and Information Technologies.

**Professional Experience:**
Associate Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 2012 – Present;
Assistant Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 2006 – 2012.

**Professional Interest:**
Information Retrieval; Data Mining; Applied Machine Learning.

**ACM Activities:**
Associate Editor, ACM Transactions on Information Systems, 2011 – Present;
Associate Editor, ACM Transactions on Interactive Intelligent Systems, 2012 – Present.

**Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:**
Senior PC, SIGIR Conference, 2007 – 2011;
Track Chair, WWW Conference, 2011;
Track Chair, CIKM Conference, 2008, and 2011.

**Awards Received:**
NSF Career Award, 2008.

**STATEMENT**

It has been my pleasure and honor to be involved in the SIGIR community for more than 12 years. I have served as a senior PC member for SIGIR and other major information retrieval conferences such as CIKM, WWW and WSDM. I have served on the editorial board of several major journals related with information retrieval. Besides information retrieval, I have also published in related communities like data mining. If I have the honor to serve on the SIGIR executive committee, I hope to work with other members to increase the impact of information retrieval research within the SIGIR community and in related academic communities. Furthermore, I have collaborated with several major industry companies. I plan to help strengthen the connection between SIGIR and industries.
Candidate for Secretary

Mark D. Smucker
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

**BIOGRAPHY**

Academic Background:
Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2008, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:
Assistant Professor, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, 2008 – Present;
Graduate Research Assistant, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA, 2003 – 2008;

Professional Interest:
Information Retrieval; Human Computer Interaction; Evaluation of Information Retrieval;
Interactive Information Retrieval; Modeling and Simulation of Interactive Information Retrieval.

ACM Activities:
IR-List Editor, SIGIR, 2009 – 2012;
Co-Chair SIGIR 2012 Posters and Demos, SIGIR, 2011 – 2012;
Publications Chair, SIGIR 2009.

Awards Received:
SIGIR Best Paper (with Charles Clarke), 2012.

**STATEMENT**

I would like to contribute to the running of SIGIR as its Secretary. I believe that I can do a good job contributing to, and maintaining the written record of SIGIR. I will bring to the Executive Committee a junior perspective, which I believe can complement senior perspectives well. Previously, I have served SIGIR as its IR-List editor (2009-2012), as a SIGIR 2012 co-chair of the posters and demos, and as the SIGIR 2009 Publications Chair.
Candidate for Secretary

Raman Chandrasekar
SerialsSolutions, Seattle, WA, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:
Ph.D., Tata Institute of Fundamental Research/University of Bombay, 1994, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:
Search Architect Lead, SerialsSolutions, Seattle, WA, 2012 – Present;
Researcher/Applied Scientist, MSN Search (now Bing), Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA; Beijing, China, 1998 – 2010.

Professional Interest:
Web Search, Search Relevance and Domain-specific Search; Academic Search; Text Mining, Entity Extraction and Disambiguation; Human Computation and Games with a Purpose; News Search.

ACM Activities:
Editor, SIGIR Forum, SIGIR, 2010 – Present;
Editor, SIGIR IRLList, SIGIR, 2004 – 2009;
Member: ACM and SIGIR, 2000 – Present; SIGKDD, 2010 – Present.

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:
Member, ACL, 1996 – 1999.

STATEMENT

I have had the honor and pleasure to serve as the SIGIR IRLList Editor from 2004 to 2009, and as the Editor of SIGIR Forum since 2010. This year, I am pleased to be running for Secretary. I have been involved with work on IR since 1991, and active in academia, companies big and small, and industrial research labs. I have worked in India, the US and in China.

When I took over IRLList, it was a twice-monthly mailing to about 800 list members. I worked to make it an extremely active list, averaging over 3 mailings each day to over 2000 members. In the process, I got to connect with many members.
If elected Secretary of SIGIR, I will work with other SIGIR officers and leverage my background to represent members from academia, industry, and a variety of countries. I would like to make SIGIR and our annual conference of wider appeal internationally. I’d like to see SIGIR collaborate with and establish closer links with regional IR communities and conferences across the world. I’d also work on ensuring that SIGIR is seen as a prominent voice on IR and search-related issues.
Candidate for Secretary

Jaap Kamps
University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

**BIOGRAPHY**

**Academic Background:**
Ph.D., University of Amsterdam, 2000, Knowledge representation.

**Professional Experience:**
Associate Professor, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2012 – Present;
Assistant Professor, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2003 – 2011;
Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1999 – 2002.

**Professional Interest:**
XML/focused/semantic search; Web search (links, anchors, logs); Evaluation and user studies; Context and Complex task support; Cross-language IR.

**ACM Activities:**
PC Chair, ACM CIKM workshop on Exploiting Semantic Annotations, 2010 – 2012;
PC Chair, ACM SIGIR workshops (various), 2007 – 2011.

**Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:**
Chair, Initiative for the Evaluation of XML retrieval (INEX), 2007 – Present;
Track organizer, Contextual Suggestions track, TREC/NIST, 2012 – Present;

**Awards Received:**
JASIST Best Paper Award, 2012.

**STATEMENT**

It is my pleasure to run for the Secretary of the SIGIR.

SIGIR has enjoyed a very successful last decade, even to the point that outsiders think of search as a solved problem. But there is no time for complacency. There are massive challenges in the way the information available is changing in quantity and in character, and in the ways we create, publish, share, and use information in the always-online world.

This urges us to keep ‘reinventing search’ and redefine the field of information retrieval and its key research problems and research methods. This requires new collaborations between the field as a whole, and building new bridges between computer science and
information science, between theory and experimentation, and between industry and academia. It needs to be clear what common goals we pursue, and how we each can contribute to achieving these goals.

I look forward to working with the rest of the Executive Committee to make SIGIR even better, besides the main Secretary’s task to "take notes at the SIGIR business meeting and write a report for SIGIR forum" (which are well within my grasp, thank you).
Candidate for Treasurer

Paul N. Bennett
Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, USA
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:

Professional Experience:
Researcher, Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, 2006 – Present;

Professional Interest:
Contextual and personalized information retrieval; Enriched information retrieval; Text classification and mining; Adaptive systems; Data mining & machine learning.

ACM Activities:
Member, ACM, 2008 – 2013;
SIGIR Area Chair, SIGIR, 2013 – Present;
CIKM Senior Program Committee, CIKM, 2011 – 2013;

Membership and Offices in Related Organizations:
WSDM Tutorial Chair, WSDM, 2012;
Publication Chair (Budgeting for transition to e-proceedings), ICML/IMLS, 2006;

Awards Received:

STATEMENT

SIGIR is a healthy and well-run organization with advanced organizational planning that exceeds most other professional organizations. As Treasurer, I intend to provide the logistic support to the Executive Committee to continue this tradition. Additionally, given the financial health of the organization, in collaboration with the SIGIR community, I will pursue a fiscally responsible plan to encourage growth in membership of the organization, promote broader involvement in information retrieval research, and increase long-term membership
and participation in SIGIR. Students are the future of the SIGIR community, so I would like to explore methods of increasing ongoing participation by students at SIGIR and SIGIR-sponsored conferences. For example, we could consider: (1) using a small portion of funds to promote repeat attendance by students; (2) exploring how travel support can be extended to SIGIR-sponsored conferences (CIKM, WSDM, JCDL); (3) and investigating the feasibility of supporting student authors of SIGIR papers to present highlight talks of their work at other top conferences. Finally, I will seek your input about opportunities for continuing to increase the visibility of SIGIR.
Candidate for Treasurer

Ian Soboroff  
NIST, Gaithersburg, MD, USA

BIOGRAPHY

Academic Background:  
Ph.D., University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2000, Computer Science.

Professional Experience:  
Supervisory Computer Scientist, NIST, Gaithersburg, MD, 2011 – Present;  
Computer Scientist, NIST, Gaithersburg, MD, 2001 – 2011;  

Professional Interest:  
Information retrieval.

ACM Activities:  
Treasurer, ACM SIGIR, 2010 – Present.

STATEMENT

I have served as the SIGIR Treasurer since 2010, and I offer that experience in standing for office again. In the previous administration we expanded student travel grants to SIGIR, co-sponsored the ACM Turing Centenary event, and also implemented student travel sponsorship for related (non-ACM, non-SIGIR) meetings. We continue to be a SIG with solid financial health. In the coming term I would like to focus on using that solid footing to change the conference budget process and bring conference registration rates lower.
Candidate for Treasurer

Diane Kelly  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, USA

**BIOGRAPHY**

**Academic Background:**  
Ph.D., Rutgers University, 2004, Information Science.

**Professional Experience:**  
Associate Professor, SILS, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, 2010 – Present;  
Frances Carroll McColl Term Professor, SILS, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, 2010 – 2012;  
Assistant Professor, SILS, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, 2004 – 2009.

**Professional Interest:**  
Interactive Information Retrieval; Search Behavior; Research Methods and Evaluation; Human Computer Interaction.

**Awards Received:**  

**STATEMENT**

During the last ten years, I have served ACM SIGIR in various capacities. I have served on the Conference Program Committee as Area Chair, Posters Chair, Workshop Chair, Doctoral Consortium Mentor and Paper Mentor. This year, I am serving as the Americas Program Chair. From 2007-2012, I served as the co-editor of SIGIR Forum. Since starting my service as a conference paper reviewer in 2003, I have accepted increasing amounts of responsibility and learned about the organization from various perspectives. My experience in these different roles has prepared me to serve as your Treasurer.

Along with performing financial duties, the Treasurer also serves on the SIGIR Executive Committee. In this role, I will contribute ideas about how to grow and strengthen SIGIR. For example, increased growth might be accomplished through membership drives, especially those targeted to people from countries underrepresented in SIGIR. I will identify ways to enhance student involvement and increase travel awards. I will encourage examination of our standard procedures, the creation of alternative approaches and the solicitation of feedback from members. Finally, I will advocate that we tackle some of the major scientific issues of our time, including research replication and ethics.