Minutes of the 2022 Annual Board Meeting

Date: July 21, 2022, 19:30–20:30 EDT
Location: Philadelphia, PA, USA

Members present: Valentine Kabanets (President), Pierre McKenzie (Treasurer), Michal Koucký (Budget Chair), Nutan Limaye (Registration Chair), Ryan Williams (Awards Chair)

Guests (incoming board members, non-voting): Benjamin Rossman, Shubhangi Saraf

Chair: The President.
Scribe: Benjamin Rossman, in lieu of Amit Chakrabarti (Secretary), who could not attend. Minutes approved by the Board.

- Motion: The minutes of the 2021–22 Continuous Business Meeting are approved.
  - Moved by Michal Koucký, seconded by Pierre McKenzie.
  - Passed unanimously.

- Motion: Approve amendment to by-laws correcting wording and links in the COI statement.
  - Passed unanimously.

- Discussion of concerns about low attendance this year. Potential explanations: COVID, visa issues (for Indian students), and perhaps most significantly the increased acceptance rate at STOC this year. Questions were raised whether to (1) shift CCC deadline, or (2) raise fees for non-students (or for students) to fund additional student/postdoc travel support. Consensus opinion that neither option makes sense at this point.

- Discussion of student/postdoc travel support. This year had $16,000 in requested funds, but only $10,000 budget from NSF grant. Students who received partial support seem to have attended. For next year’s CCC in Warwick, the plan is to apply for $20,000 from NSF (also to inquire about lifting restriction on students from US institutions only). Also discussed: seeking corporate sponsorship. MSR and Algorand raised as potential sponsors.
• Discussion of block rates at hotels, concerns over not meeting reservation quota. Local organizers should be warned against such arrangements in the future.

• Conference length: There was consensus that a 3.5–4 day schedule is ideal. An extra day for a workshop or dedicated to tutorials (as in New Brunswick) is good as well, at the initiative of local organizers.

• CCC 2024: Ann Arbor bid approved. For 2025, discussion of Memphis, LA, Toronto and Saarbrucken as possible hosts. Israel also named as future possibility.

• Special issue journal. Discussed bids from
  ○ *Theory of Computing* (ToC)
    ■ pro: open access, ranking
    ■ con: complaints about editorial process
  ○ *Computational Complexity* (CC)
    ■ pro: tradition, ranking, name aligns with CCC
    ■ con: not open access, but authors allowed to post articles
  ○ *ACM Transactions on Computation Theory* (TOCT)
    ■ pro: ACM, special issue would raise profile of journal
    ■ con: unranked, similar to CC, not open access but authors allow to post

In the end, after discussion, the 5 board members voted unanimously for CC.

• Discussion of a possible “test of time” award. Should this be an annual award to one or a few papers from a certain (shifting) window of years? Or a one-time award (or award for special occasions, such as significant anniversary years of CCC) given to several papers from the entire past of CCC? No clear consensus, but there seemed to be greater enthusiasm for the second possibility.