1988 Engineering Open House
The ACM at UIUC Accepts the Challenge!

The Engineering Open House (EOH) is a tradition that stretches back many decades and gives our students the opportunity to demonstrate to family, friends, and the public the exciting work being done in engineering. The purpose of the Engineering Open House is to inform the public in general and prospective students in particular about engineering, focusing on engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

EOH happens each year during the Friday and Saturday of the first week of March. The departments in the College of Engineering present examples of their research and accomplishments in the form of exhibits that entertain and educate visitors while embodying the chosen theme. These exhibits compete for awards based on originality, visual effect,

Personal Computer of the Year 2000
The Apple Tablet: A Special EOH Report

Recently 5 UIUC grad students took first place in a competition sponsored by Apple Computer, Inc. to design the **"Personal Computer of the Year 2000"**. These students were chosen as best out of the 5 finalists who remained for the final round of competition at Apple's facilities in Silicon Valley. The students are Arch Robison, Steve Skiena, and Bartlett Mel from the Department of Computer Science and Luke Young and Kurt Thearling of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Their design, labelled "Tablet", was designed to meet the future's needs in personal computing: it would be very portable, being of small dimensions (approximately 8" x 11") and could be carried around and used just like a notebook; it could communicate with other smart devices nearby, from

1988 Open House

interpretation of the EOH theme, and other criteria.

Engineering Open House will run Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5, from 9:00am to 4:00pm both days. Judging will take place sometime Friday morning. The computer science portion of the 1988 EOH promises to be outstanding. There has been a lot happening in our department with the continuing acquisition of talented faculty, new equipment, and the expansion of the Digital Computer Lab facilities. Our repertoire of exhibits this year will reflect the innovative research made possible by this commitment to excellence, and should hold its own in the awards competition.

Most of our exhibits will be located in the new Trailer Lab, just south of Woodshop, though two projects are tentatively placed in Engineering Hall. The project leaders and members have put a lot of effort into organizing their displays for the judging competition, so be sure to tour the computer science show on March 4 and 5.

The CS-EOH committee can still use a few good ACM members on the days of EOH. Some exhibitors need volunteers to man their exhibits for an hour or two at a time. Also, some projects may need help setting up Thursday afternoon. By volunteering to fill these needs, you can take part in all the excitement of EOH, as well as see some of the effort that goes into it.

CS - EOH Central Exhibit
User Interface Technology in Personal Computing

This year's Department of Computer Science Central Exhibit is a look at the recent advances in **User Interface Technology** in personal computing. These advances include the introduction of the mouse, windows, and other various software and hardware. Programs being shown will consist of Cal, Hypercard, Microsoft Windows, AutoCad, and others being shown on Apple Macintoshs, IBM ATs, 3B2s, and Sun Workstations.

The Central Exhibit--organized by the ACM at UIUC--will be located in Loomis Lab. I still need some people to help out by offering some time on Friday or Saturday to sit at the exhibit. If anyone is interested in giving a helping hand, please give me, Chris Fuller, a call at 344-1222, or call the ACM Office at 333-5828.

—Chris Fuller, EOH Central Exhibit Chairman

ACM at UIUC Membership
Become active in the ACM

Are you an ACM at UIUC member yet? Would you like to join the growing number of students, professors and CS professionals here at the University of Illinois expressing an interest in computer science and applications? Become a member of the ACM Student Chapter at UIUC.

Fill out the form at the back of this newsletter, or pick up a membership application at the ACM Office on 1204 W. Springfield, Room 201 (333-5828) and join. Membership fees are $5.00 a year and benefit you as well as helps the ACM at UIUC bring its members more services and benefits in the field of computer science, and beyond.

—Rich Bloch, Editor

Work on next year's CS-EOH will begin shortly after this one, and we are looking for responsible members to take over the CS-EOH committee duties.

If you would like to participate in the 1988 Computer Science - Engineering Open House, leave a message at the ACM Office at 333-5828 or at my home, 344-1717.

—Chris Walquist, CS-EOH Chairman

Apple Tablet

various household appliances to perhaps a color laser printer, via infrared sensors located on the Tablet's sides. It also would incorporate other innovative technology, such as a built-in cellular phone to communicate with more distant locations.

The five students first discussed plans for their PC design at a public meeting concerning the contest back in September. They then teamed up with Professors Stephen Omohundro of computer science and Stephen Wolfram of physics for advice. The group members decided to divide up areas of current technology to look into and then they informally shared their ideas over dinner once a week. They felt that the dinner route was a very enjoyable method of brainstorming and contributed to the creative production of ideas.

Feasibility was the key issue that the group members focused on in their design. They did not "suppose a breakthrough in artificial intelligence, superconductivity, or any other sexy technologies" but looked at what technology is presently available or being currently developed in a lab somewhere today. They also accounted for such factors of society as a changing economy and changing life- and work-styles. The feasibility factor proved to be important in their winning the contest since most of the other

From the Chair
1988 EOH an 'Educational Carnival'

Next weekend is Engineering Open House, and it will be packed with all the fun and excitement of an educational carnival. EOH will run Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5 from 9:00am to 4:00pm on both days. ACM at UIUC has worked hard to represent the Department of Computer Science this year and believes that everyone will enjoy the wide variety of exhibits.

Planned projects as described by CS-EOH Chairman Chris Walquist feature robotic vision, electronic music, computer simulation, and software development. Our Central Exhibit highlights recent advancements in user interface technology. Other exhibits include examples of computer-aided instruction, graphics, and design of personal computers for the 21st century.

We hope to see all of you pass through the ACM CS-EOH exhibits and delight in computer simulation of life in 3-D, control of robotic vision, generation of electronic music, and testing of your own road building skills. In addition, you'll be able to seek a peek at the national award winning computer of the future--The Tablet--designed by a team of U. of I. students. So, discover what is being done in the field of Computer Science by students like yourself, here at the University of Illinois.

—Robert A. Camp, Chairman

The ACM at UIUC 1988 Elections

Any ACM members interested in running for one of the four elected positions of ACM - Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer should make their intentions known to the executive committee before February 29. Stop by the ACM Office during office hours or attend one of the executive meetings on Fridays at 3:00 pm in the ACM Lounge, 1204 West Springfield, Urbana. All ACM at UIUC members interested in running must be an ACM National member. Applications are available in the ACM Office.

Also, there are openings for committees heads which will be appointed by the newly elected officers early in April. Anyone interested in being a committee leader should inform the officers of the ACM at UIUC by March 31. The committees' functions are outlined on page 9 of this issue.

—Robert A. Camp, Chairman

The ACM MacLab is Coming!
Part II - 'The Quest for Connectors'

Nick, Dick, Kate, Kathleen, George, Walt, Bob, Bob, Mimi, Ginger, Lynn, Michelle. No it's not Mousketeer role call, these are just *a few* of the people we dealt with on Wednesday, February 19: a day that is now being called the 'Quest for Connectors.'

I don't really care to go into this long and drawn out story, but it does have a happy ending. By five o'clock, after greatly exercising the body politic (otherwise known as 'running around') we had received a LaserWriter Plus, five AppleTalk connectors, MacDraw, and MacWrite for the new **ACM at UIUC MacLab.**

We have also been successful--whew!--in getting the rest of the equipment we needed. The 100 meg hard drive which will act as a server for the network showed up at the office yesterday. Today we picked up the Mac II and various other supplies. All of the networking is done and everything works great. At this point, we are very much on schedule for a March 1 grand opening!

There is still some work that needs to be done, though. We need to get a modem and BBS software for an official ACM bulletin board. The MacLab policies are being finalized and will be presented in the next newsletter and at our ACM General Meeting on March 2 . We also need a few ACM members who would be interested in MacLab sitting for an hour at a time. The ACM still has a few slots open in office hours where there is no one around to manage the MacLab. And if no one is around to manage the MacLab, it's closed. If you would be interested, please contact Chris Fuller at the ACM Office (333-5828) or at home, 344-1222.

In the near future, I will be contacting various software companies about donating software to the MacLab. Currently, we have MacWrite, Microsoft Word, Hypercard, and MacDraw available and there is also some public domain software on the hard drive. We are working on building up the public domain library for all ACM members to use.

Things have been moving along quickly, and in all I would say quite well. Tune in next issue for yet another installment of 'The ACM MacLab is Coming!': MacLab policies.

—*Chris Fuller, MacLab Director*

Apple Tablet

competing teams focusing singularly on the issue of overcoming user fear of computers by using very imaginative yet not very feasible technology. The UIUC team's project was so realistic, in fact, that Steve Wozniak, the founder of Apple and one of the 5 contest judges, stated that their design may even be a "PC of the year 1995".

The group members have enjoyed the benefits of participating in and winning the Apple contest. They enjoyed their trip to California for the contest and complimentary tour of Apple, Inc. They had a opportunity to speak with Steve Wozniak and science fiction writer Ray Bradbury, another of the contest judges. As winners, the members and their advisers all will receive Apple equipment. The University will also receive a $20,000 Macintosh lab. They have enjoyed their media attention also, as there have been articles in the Daily Illini, News Gazette, Chicago Tribune, Macintosh Today and others, as well as being mentioned on local radio and television stations.

The ACM at UIUC—in association with the winners of the "Personal Computer of the Year 2000" contest—will be featuring the Apple Tablet design in this year's Engineering Open House. The Tablet Exhibit will be in the Department of Computer Science main exhibition area, in the Trailer Labs located just south of the Woodshop.

—*Tom Begnel, Newsletter Staff*

Computer Fee Update
$10 Increase in Near Future for UIUC Students

The current $20 a semester computer fee we all pay is expected to increase by $10 next semester. It was announced Monday, February 15, that Interim Chancellor Morton Weir, would make this recommendation for the increase to President Stanley Ikenberry. Originally the Computer Fee Advisory Committee had asked for a $20 increase, but recently revised the amount to a $10 increase.

The purpose of the increase is two-fold. First, a shortage of funds prevented the committee from funding over half the proposals it received last year. During the first round reviews, 74 proposals were submitted with 31 receiving funding, and for the second round 57 were submitted with 27 receiving approval. A total of $8,760,000 was requested, however the committee was able to provide only $1,351,247. A second reason for the increase is that many of the funded projects entail a multi-year commitment, and without an increase, very few new projects could be funded in the coming years. These long commitments come from not only the constant needs of computer labs such as maintenance, but also because several companies agreed to let the University spread payments for equipment over several years. This enables the committee to fund more projects now, but future funds must be used to pay for this equipment.

Proposals submitted to the Computer Fee Committee were examined in two rounds. First round projects were implemented in fall 1987, and the computer labs created are currently in use by students of all academic majors. The projects include:

College of Communications Computer Facility

This proposal requested funds to develop 2 16-workstation classrooms, a 10-workstation lab, and a system administrator's office. This lab, located in Greg Hall, is available for all students in the College of Communications.

Support and Expansion of GE-103 Micro-CADD Laboratory

Funds were requested to support and expand the hours of an already existing lab for use of students enrolled in GE103. The lab serves approximately 1000 students per year.

Development of a Microcomputer-Based Classroom for Instruction in Agricultural Sciences and Management

The proposal involved adding equipment to an already existing classroom funded by project EXCEL. Student use is estimated at 1474 students per year in 18 courses in the College of Agriculture.

Networked Graphics Workstation Labs, Part I

Funds were requested by the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering to set up a computer-aided design laboratory for course use. The lab, located in 235 EEB, will provide students with state-of-the-art design equipment.

This is just a brief sketch of a few of the funded first round project proposals. A complete listing of the projects and principal investigators is available at the ACM Office. Next issue we will examine some of the funded Round 2 proposals.

—Scott Mahlke, Newsletter Staff

Wozniak Strikes Back!
New Product Developed at UIUC

Some people would say that curiosity killed the cat. Louis Wozniak would tell you that it may just build him a company. Okay, so Louis Wozniak isn't the famous Steve Wozniak, nor is he just one man. Louis Wozniak is more than one man. As a matter of fact he's two, so to speak. There's Louis Wozniak the UIUC general engineering professor, and there's Louis Wozniak, son of the aforementioned professor, student at UIUC in general engineering, and inventor of the Porta-Link.

The ACM National Lectureship Series
"The Myths of the Computer Consultant"

On Friday, March 11, 1988 the ACM at UIUC will sponsor a noon-time lecture by nationally known independent computer consultant Bill Rieken. Mr. Rieken will speak at a location to be announced on **"The Myths of the Computer Consultant"**. This lecture is part of the ACM's series of national lectures.

Mr. Rieken is an independent consultant with 18 years of experience for more than 30 clients. He specializes in UNIX training and consulting services for several companies worldwide. His clients include IBM, AT&T, DEC, NASA, NCR, Amdahl, Apple, Bank of America, Advanced Micro Devices, Hewlett-Packard, Perkin-Elmer, Pacific Bell, Tektronix, and Bell Communications Research. Bill's public speaking is an unusual combination of excellent technical perspective and upbeat personal charm. His undergraduate work in mathematics and computer science was done at the University of California at Berkeley, and his graduate study at Stanford University.

His lecture on "The Myths of the Computer Consultant" will address what it is really like to be a self-employed computer consultant. He will take a light-hearted look at the pros and cons of running your own business. The joys of cash-flow accounting and the thrills of marketing your services are compared to the job security and benefit protection of corporate employment. Some adventures with warm, nurturing client managers for whom employees won't work are also described. Personality traits common to successful consultants are presented. The emphasis on professionalism makes this talk equally valuable to career employees.

Anyone considering pursuing a career as an independent consultant, or just anyone who wants to know what the life of a consultant is like is invited to bring a lunch and attend this fun and informative talk.

—*Jeff Wilson, Lectureship Chairman*

Back to curiosity. Louis Wozniak, the inventor (for sake of clarity, we shall use his nickname, BC), was curious to know what the printer/cassette interface on his Sharp EL5500-II pocket computer could be used for. His first choice to look for information was from Sharp itself. He soon found that the U.S. Division of Sharp had no idea as to the specifications of the odd port. After that phone call, he was back to his own basement workshop. After some experimentation, BC and his father, Professor Wozniak, realized that a product and hopefully a company, could be built around this small input/output port. After some further development, Porta-Link was born, and the company Chipper was founded.

Porta-Link is a hardware and software interface that is used to transfer BASIC programs and data between the Sharp pocket computer and a host computer. Porta-Link is available for the Apple][series, the IBM PC, and their compatibles. With Porta-Link, a program may be written, run, and stored on either the Sharp or the host computer and then transferred to almost any application on either machine. Another option available on the IBM version is called Databus. Databus is capable of transmitting numerical values or strings of characters as a text file from the pocket computer to the

A CS MINOR?
The Scoop from the ACM at UIUC

The specific requirements for an official minor in Computer Science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are being voted on this week by the CS department faculty. A concept long overdue, this became possible last November, when the LAS faculty approved the final guidelines for minors in their college. As many may be aware, in the past, a "minor" has never been offered as an option to students at this university. Provided all goes smoothly, this sequence for a minor in Computer Science may be one of the first minors adopted in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

One reason for the haste is that the department feels very strongly that such a development would benefit many students on this campus. It would cater especially well to those interested in computer science, perhaps as a tool for other fields of study, but not wishing to major in it. Such students enroll in various 100- and 200-level computer courses as their free electives, while the minor option would provide some structure to their choice of classes, encompassing all the fundamentals, and thus make the learning process much more complete. The following quote from the proposal best justifies the option of the CS minor in LAS: "In recent years, students throughout the country have discovered that they need not major in computer science in order to acquire some useful amount of knowledge in the field. This minor seeks to provide for such students the theoretical and practical foundation of computer science so that they may apply it to their principle fields of interest. It therefore is intended to broaden the students' course selection beyond the obvious computer programming courses to include theory of computation and one more foundation course, and to deepen the students' course selection to include at least one of the most fundamental 300-level computer science courses and one additional 200- or 300-level course."

Although things are moving pretty quickly, the earliest this addition will appear in the "Undergraduate Programs" guide will be its next printing, in 1989. However, current underclassmen may still be able to benefit from this option, since students will not have to declare their intentions until senior year. Then, provided the proper coursework will be completed on time, seniors will be able to graduate with this new minor officially on their transcripts.

A list of the specific requirements proposed, to compose a nineteen hour sequence of computer science courses, is on file at the ACM office. If a minor in Computer Science, in Liberal Arts and Sciences, sounds interesting, stop by ACM. This will be a very worthwhile option for many. Keep your eyes open for further developments!

—Anna Minkov, Departmental Committees

Wozniak Back!

host. This file may then be accessed by high-level languages such as BASIC or PASCAL or by database or spreadsheet programs such as dBASE or Lotus.

The applications of Porta-Link and Databus are almost unlimited. This product combines the power of a personal computer and the flexibility of the Sharp pocket computer. This sort of combination lends itself to such people as students, engineers, brokers, and estimators. The Databus enables users of the Sharp PC to gather data and do routine field calculations on the preprogrammed pocket computer and upload them to the host computer for use in any number of programs available for the MS-DOS compatible machines. This is a great, inexpensive alternative useful in positions such as meter readers, inspection workers, inventory checkers, and route salesmen. For large scale use, Chipper is available to write and develop site specific software needed to fit a particular company.

Chipper will be displaying their products at the upcoming Engineering Open House. Their display will be available during the two day event at Kenny Gym. For further information about the Porta-Link, contact Chipper at P.O. Box 124, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 373-8373.

—Eric Parham, Contributing Editor

The ACM at UIUC Faculty Spotlight
Assistant Professor Thomas Kerkhoven

This issue's "Faculty Spotlight" focuses on Assistant Professor Thomas Kerkhoven.   Prof. Kerkhoven was trained as a physicist in the Netherlands from 1974 to 1981. He received a B.S. in physics from Free University, Amsterdam, in 1977 and then what is known as a "Doctoraal degree" from the University of Amsterdam in 1981. From there he proceeded to Yale University to begin studies in computer science specializing in numerical analysis. The subject of semiconductor simulation was suggested to Prof. Kerkhoven there by Prof. Martin Schultz who is the head of the Research Center for Scientific Computation there. Prof. Kerkhoven gained his M.S., M.Philosophy, and PhD in computer science all at Yale. He then arrived here at UIUC in 1985.

Prof. Kerkhoven's research centers around the mathematical analysis of algorithms for semiconductor simulation. He enjoys this area of study because he can take advantage of both his education in physics and mathematics on the one hand and in computer science and numerical analysis on the other. More accurately, Prof. Kerkhoven works on systems of nonlinear partial differentiation equations of which the semiconductor equations are a special case. Here at the University Prof. Kerkhoven collaborates with device physicists in the group of Prof. Karl Hess from ECE at Coordinated Science Lab and Prof. Youcef Saad from CSRD. They are working on a project to simulate electronic properties of semiconductor microstructures. This project will ultimately run three-dimensional simulations on the Cray supercomputer here on campus.

When asked about his impressions of the Department of Computer Science here at UIUC, Prof. Kerkhoven responded saying that since he was involved primarily in outside and interdepartmental projects he felt it would be difficult for him to accurately critique the Department. He did however express his ideas concerning the size of the Department. He noted that there is a trade-off between the large variety of courses and fields of study available at a large state university such as Illinois and the amount of resources available per student on campus. He feels that as the Department grows it needs to continually keep in mind that faculty and computing resources should not be spread too thinly among students, this could lead to a decrease in the quality of their education.

—Tom Begnel, Newsletter Staff

Garcia's Report!

Last Friday, the **"Meet the Executives"** party at Garcia's Pizza in a Pan went over great! About fifty people showed up for pizza and many made some very good suggestions for improving the ACM at UIUC. The pizza went quickly and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Based on the success of this venture, we will probably begin to sponsor one like it every semester because the success of the ACM at UIUC is based on *your* participation!

—Scott Ernsteen, Social Chairman
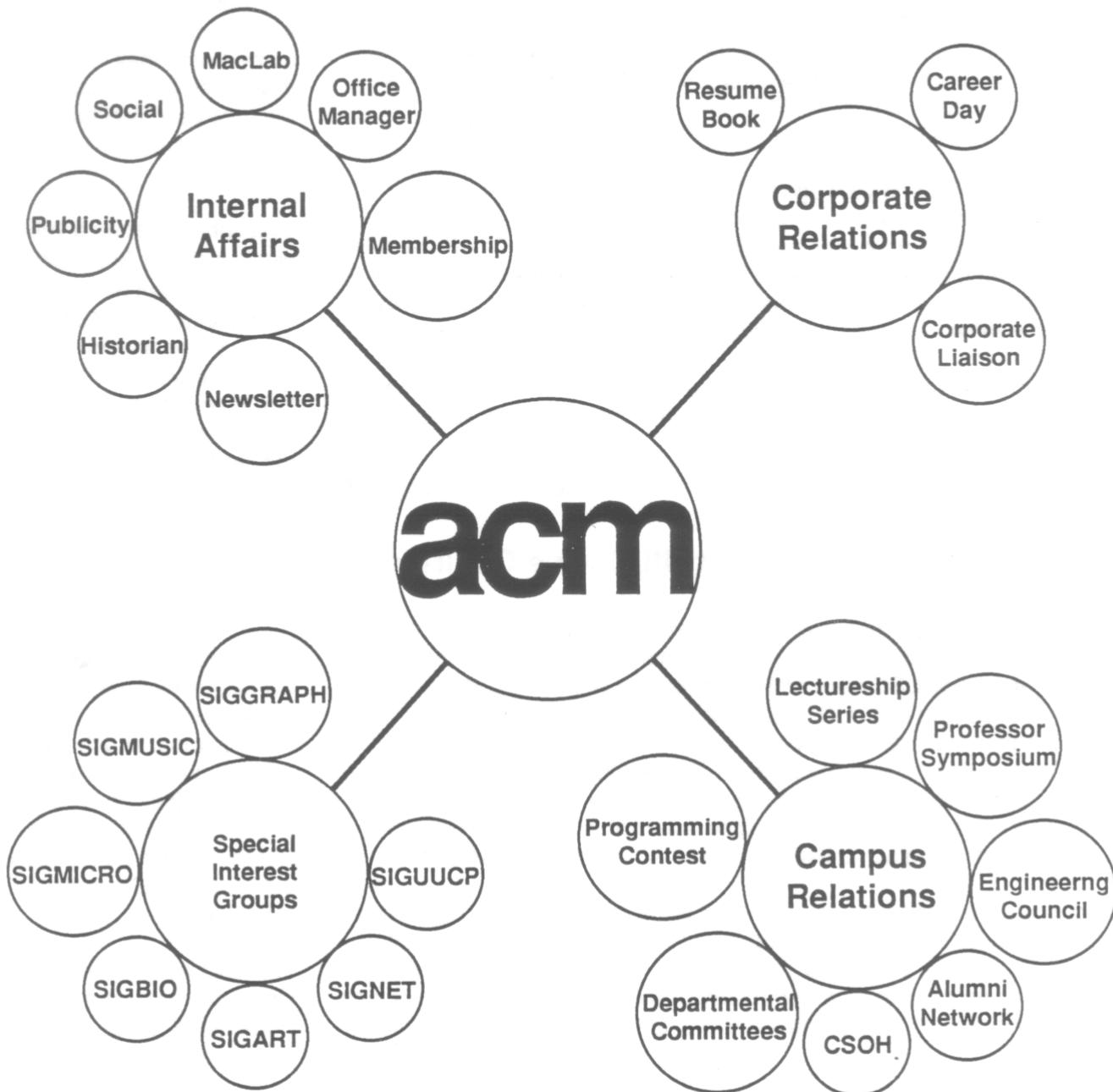
The ACM at UIUC Structure

With the coming of the 1988 ACM at UIUC elections, there will be openings for ACM committee heads. The following is a diagram of the ACM at UIUC structure, showing the various committees. If you are interested in joining a committee, please contact the ACM Office at 333-5828, or attend the next General Meeting on Wednesday, March 2. The committee heads will be appointed by the newly elected executive officers early in April.

—*Robert A. Camp, Chairman*
—*Eric Parham, Contributing Editor*

1988-1989 ACM Candidates' Positions
The following candidates' positions are presented to allow members to review the qualifications of the ACM at UIUC executive officer candidates

Rich Bloch for ACM at UIUC Chairman

My name is Rich Bloch, and I'm the Newsletter Editor of this fine publication, ***BANKS OF THE BONEYARD***. If you're a semi-frequent reader of the newsletter, you might've realized that over the past year much has changed. If you haven't approved of these changes, well then, you can blame me personally for any harm I might have inadvertently caused. If you think things are looking good, then remember me at the polls on Wednesday, March 2, 1988. I am seeking the position of Chairman of the ACM at UIUC for 1988-1989.

It's been just about one year ago to the day when I joined the ACM at UIUC. Almost immediately, I received a phone call from the then Newsletter Editor, Jim Dobyns (who went on to be elected Chairman until a business venture pulled him away from this distinguished position; but that's another soon-to-be-published story). Jim asked if I would help out on the newsletter. I agreed, and have been Editor for just about a year.

A lot has happened in the ACM at UIUC over the course of a year. And since I am the guy behind the keyboard of ***BANKS***, let me gloss over some of the highlights.

Lisa Marchese for ACM at UIUC Vice Chairman

My name is Lisa Marchese and I am a senior in Math/Computer Science. I also work for the University as a programmer, and as a computer operator at several CSO sites around campus. I was elected to the office of Vice Chairperson by the ACM at UIUC executive council for this semester after our previous Vice Chairman, Pete Hlavach graduated. I have enjoyed working with the other ACM executives to make the ACM at UIUC what it is today, and I encourage all of you to re-elect me to the office of Vice Chairperson this spring so that I can continue to work with them to provide events and benefits for our ACM general membership.

Although I have been a member of ACM since my sophomore year, I first became an active member in the spring of 1986 when I helped to start up SIGUUCP, the Unix Users & C Programmers Special Interest Group here on campus. As co-founder and Publicity Chair, I spent a great deal of time and effort on publicity, recruiting members, and many other organizational issues.

Scott Ernsteen for ACM at UIUC Treasurer

Hi, my name is Scott Ernsteen. I am running for Treasurer of the ACM for the next school year. As many of you may already know, I have been the Social Chairman for the past year, and have been actively involved in the ACM in many ways.

Last spring I set up a volleyball picnic with the Gould Corporation. This event was well received and helped establish ACM as a viable student organization in the corporate world. Another event that I organized last year that helped with public relations within the Computer Science Department was a luncheon at The China Inn. ACM invited all the secretaries in the CS department to lunch for all the help that they had given us throughout the year.

This semester I have set up other events, as well, including a softball picnic at Hessel Park, Garcia's Pizza parties, and the upcoming ACM Skate Date. My other responsibilities at ACM include creating and setting up the ACM test file (which contains over 150 old exams) and being the Office Manager.

This fall I will be attending the University as a graduate student in Computer Science. My undergraduate education was not

Chairman Position

Well, probably most obvious is the change in format and content of the newsletter. From the standpoint of appearance, I hope the design changes I've made to *BANKS OF THE BONEYARD* have given some finicky would-be readers the incentive to pick up a copy of the newsletter, instead of just passing it up in a rush to make it to class. And I've added a bunch of new columns to keep our readers interested in the goings-on in the world of computer science and applications, on-campus and elsewhere. I personally think our "I/O" column has been the most fun. "Programming in the Dirt, Parts One & Two" received a lot of good responses last semester, and I hope to see more of the column in the future. I've also added a "classified ads" section to help everyone sell off those useless things around the apartment, and I hope everyone will use it to find themselves someone to sublet to in the summer.

Circulation is up too, which is a good sign. We've gone from somewhere on the order of 500 newsletters per issue this time last year, to a record-breaking peak of somewhere around 1500 copies. This has been due in part to the new ACM newsstands that are populating the campus. And just recently, *BANKS OF THE BONEYARD* has been officially notified that it is now being archived in the UIUC Main Library. Plus, the ACM has received subscription requests from a corporation in California and universities in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. It's looking pretty

Treasurer Position

in Computer Science but in Accountancy. What better preparation for a treasurer than to be an accounting major?

In the past I was treasurer of Illinois Student Society for Personnel Administration, another student organization. I feel well qualified to run the financial matters at the ACM and I ask for your support.

—*Scott Ernsteen, Social Chairman*

good. But then again, I'm biased.

All right, enough of the newsletter. I've already said too much. In addition to working on the newsletter, I've worked in close association with our glorious leader, Robert "Bob" Camp. Together, we put together the proposal to the Computer Fee Committee in October of last year that has won the ACM at UIUC its MacLab, consisting of three Macintosh SEs, an Apple LaserWriter, and a Macintosh II system. In addition, I've been a representative for the ACM at UIUC at the 1987 ACM Fall Joint Computer Conference held in Dallas, Texas. And as a result of that particular adventure, I will be meeting with the National Chairman of the Student ACM Chapters in Atlanta, Georgia in hopes of securing a position as Newsletter Editor of the ACM National Newsletter. More on that when it happens, though.

—*Rich Bloch, Newsletter Editor*

Vice Chairperson Position

As I got to know more of the members, I was appointed to the position of Social Chair of the ACM at UIUC in the fall of 1986. I sponsored the ACM happy hours at Murphy's, pizza parties, ice cream socials, luncheons, and other events. At that time our executive committee was rapidly expanding, and more people were getting involved in these and other events than ever.

At that time, I was also a member of the ACM Publicity Committee. Other SIGs were starting up along side of the SIGUUCP, and I became involved in helping them with their publicity. I was then appointed Publicity Chair in the spring of 1987 when the previous Publicity Chair of ACM left the University, and recruited new executives to fill the Social Chair and SIGUUCP Publicity Chair positions.

The Student Chapter of the ACM at UIUC has come a long way, especially in the past two years, and I am very glad to have been a part of it. It has been a pleasure to meet and work with so many other executives and members over the past two years, and I strongly encourage all who are interested not only to become members but to become active in the ACM and to take advantage of the activities and other benefits offered to our general membership.

—*Lisa Marchese, Vice Chairperson*

The ACM Late Night *SKATE DATE* Update

Some questions about the upcoming **ACM Late Night *SKATE DATE***:

When is it?

The ACM Late Night *SKATE DATE* happens on Tuesday night, March 22 at 11:20 pm. Remember, this is the week before Spring Break and there is nothing to do at that time, anyway.

Where is it?

Naturally, we will skate at the UIUC Ice Arena on the corner of Fifth Street and Armory.

How long does it last?

We have the rink until 1:20 am.

How much does it cost?

It is free to any ACM at UIUC member who has a valid membership card.

We don't have to pay, even for skates?

All right, you caught me. There is a $.50 charge for ice skates.

Can we bring any friends?

Friends are allowed as long as one member with a valid ACM at UIUC membership card comes along with them.

What's in it for me?

This is an excellent opportunity to meet other ACM members and executives, as well as have a great time.

Also, it might be a good time to start preparing for the 1990 Winter Olympic games (They're not in 1992, so you'll need all the practice you can get).

Any other questions?

Call the ACM Office at 333-5828. Or drop by at 1204 West Springfield Avenue, Room 201.

—Scott Ernsteen, Social Chairman

Committee Positions Open in the ACM

The ACM at UIUC wants you! We have available for immediate occupation two positions. They are:

Corporate Liaison: The ACM at UIUC has the support of several local corporations, which provide speakers and other support. We would like to continue this relationship and expand it to other corporations. Doing this would be ths job of our Corporate Liaison person(s). This is an excellent way to meet and impress recruiters, and get a job after graduation.

Professor Symposium: We at ACM offer faculty symposiums, in which faculty members and students can meet in an informal atmosphere to discuss the professor's research. Our symposium person(s) would be in charge of setting up, publicizing and running these meetings. This is an excellent way to meet professors, and would be especially helpful for students planing to attend grad school.

If you are interested in either of these positions, call the ACM Office (333-5828) or email me at gerrib@s.cs.uiuc.edu. Finally, you could attend the ACM Executive Meeting, held every Friday at 3:00pm in the ACM Lounge (1208 W. Springfield).

—Chris Gerrib, Advisor to the Chairman

SIG Update
ACM at UIUC Special Interest Groups

SIGCOORDINATOR--WANTED: Students that wish to get a jump on their management careers . If you are ambitious, creative, and think you're leadership material. Apply for the opportunity to lead a UIUC Registered Student Organization: become involved in an ACM at UIUC SIG. This chance for leadership emerges because of the substantial growth of the ACM at UIUC and the graduation of former SIG Chairmen. Applicants with the background or the desire to explore their potential should contact Steve Norris at the ACM Office (333-5828).

—Steven J. Norris, SIG Coordinator

SIGGRAPH (graphics)—At the next SIGGRAPH meeting, we will discuss all the details of our EOH project which is a joint project between SIGGRAPH and SIGMICRO. 3D LIFE is the title of the project. To find out more come to our next meeting on Wednesday March 2, at 7:00 pm in the ACM Office. For more information call the ACM Office at 333-5828.

—Abbas Zein, SIGGRAPH Chairman

SIGMICRO (microcomputers)—At the last SIGMICRO meeting on February 16, plans were made to establish problem solving forums after each SIGMICRO meeting. These forums are for the sharing of problems, ideas, and suggestions with others who use your type of computer. Machine types represented thus far include—but are not limited to— IBM & MS-DOS compatibles, Apple Macintosh, Atari, and Commodore Amiga.

Also discussed was the Public Domain Library for the various machine types, and plans for a Bulletin Board. The PD library is growing with programs and other items of interest for the above-mentioned machine types. If you have material to submit, or are interested in accumulating material for another machine type, please contact Don Meyer at the ACM Office (333-5828), at home (367-0464) or bring it up at the next meeting.

And, keep an eye out for the SIGMICRO/SIGGRAPH EOH project this year, It should be a dazzling display! The project name is "3-D LIFE", and it involves simulating cell "life" in a cubic matrix, with the computing tasks split among three microcomputers. Anyone interested in helping out with the final stages of the project, contact Don Meyer.

The next meeting is March 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the ACM Lounge, 1204 West Springfield. This will be a joint meeting with SIGGRAPH. SIGMICRO meetings will be every two weeks at this time and place.

—Don Meyer, Chairman SIGMICRO

The 1988 ACM/Engineering Council SITE Tours
High School Whiz Kids Tour the University of Illinois at UC

On February 4 and 5, Engineering Council sponsored the annual **Student Introduction To Engineering program (SITE)**. This program brings the top 100 high school students who have been accepted to the College of Engineering for next year's term. The ACM at UIUC was there showing off the Department of Computer Science to these outstanding students.

The program included many events over the two days, including a contest to build a structure out of minimal materials (balsa wood, string, straws etc.) to withstand an earthquake, and a banquet at the Illini Union. But the most important part of the program was the tour.

Classified Ads

Summer Sublet

I have a one bedroom apartment right across the street from the snack bar, however two people could live comfortably there. It has air-conditioning and is furnished. Remember, this is only one block from IMPE and over the summer you can't be too close to the pool. Rent is negotiable. Call Scott 367-3491.

All this MUST SELL

2 Atari ST SS 3.5" Disk Drives
1 Racal Vadic 2400 Baud Modem
1 Graphic Artist CADD for Atari ST

Going to the Highest Offer! Call Eric at 217-332-1019 for more information!

Classified Ads Submissions

If you are an ACM member and would like to submit an ad, drop off your typed ad in the ACM Newsletter Mailbox in the ACM Office, 1204 W. Springfield, Room 201. Ads are free, but you must be a current ACM at UIUC member.

For more information, call the ACM Office at 333-5828 and ask for Rich.

Apartment

Beautiful, spacious 3 bedroom apartment on Springfield near DCL for summer sublet/fall option. 1-1/2 baths, dishwasher, disposal, AC, **swimming pool, jacuzzi, sauna,** 2 balconies. Cheaper than you'd think! Call 398-5091.

LOST!

One *BANKS OF THE BONEYARD* newsletter stand. Stands approximately 4' 3" and goes by the name ACM. Last seen on north side of campus, across from DCL in Woodshop. If found, please call frantic owner at the ACM Office 333-5828. No questions asked.

Exams on File

The ACM is collecting old exams from its membership to be placed in the **ACM Exam File**. We are looking for copies of exams for any courses in computer science, mathematics, as well as introductory physics and chemistry. The ACM Exam File, located in the ACM Office, is open to all ACM members as an aid in their coursework.

If you have any old exams you wish to donate, please stop by the ACM Office at 1204 W. Springfield, Room 201 or call 333-5828.

—*Scott Ernsteen, Office Manager*

Whiz Kids

Each participant went on tours of three separate departments. The computer science tour was organized and given for the ACM at UIUC by myself. The tour started at the Illini Union and showed off the new micro-computer center in the basement. As the tour continued up toward Springfield Avenue, the computer science curriculum was described and explained. Then the tour went into the Trailer Lab behind the Woodshop to show the ATs, RTs and Sun Workstations there. The tour continued into 200 Woodshop and then finished at DCL. I answered many questions from the students about computers and computer science here at the UIUC. The students who took the tour said that it was very informative and that they learned a lot. One student even said he had changed his mind about which department he was going to join (he moved from computer engineering to computer science). To many of the students, it was their first exposure to any computers larger than a microcomputer.

The program was very interesting and informative. It's too bad that every student entering the University doesn't receive this kind of introduction to their college. Most students coming in have no idea what to expect from college, and this program gives 100 students a glimpse into a little bit of what college is all about.

—*Jeff Wilson, SITE Coordinator*

SIG Update

SIGBIO (biologically-related computing)--Our first organizational meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 2 at 8:00pm in Room 304 Medical Sciences Building. We plan to discuss activities for the coming year, which include one seminar a semester featuring a guest speaker , an annual symposium where members could present their work, papers, etc., and a social event. We also hope to acquire a computer workstation and bulletin-board-system that includes state-of-the-art capabilities for biologically related computing. If you're interested call the ACM Office at 333-5828, or Mike Doyle at 333-9627.

—*Mike Doyle, SIGBIO Chairman*

BANKS OF THE BONEYARD
Newsletter Staff

Editor:
    Rich Bloch

Contributing Editor:
    Eric Sean Parham

Columnists:
    Tom Begnel
    Scott Mahlke

ACM Calendar of Events

Mon Feb 29 1988 - 89 ACM Executive Nominations Deadline
                5:00 pm

Tues Mar 1 SIGMICRO Meeting
                7:00 pm
                ACM Lounge, 1204 W. Springfield, Room 301
            SIGART Meeting
                7:00 pm
                223 Greg Hall

Wed Mar 2 ACM General Meeting: 1988 EOH & Executive
Elections
                5:00 pm
                314 Altgeld
            NEWSLETTER STAFF Meeting
                7:00 pm
                ACM Lounge, 1204 W. Springfield, Room 301

Thurs Mar 3 SIGBIO Meeting
                8:00 pm
                304 Medical Science

Fri   Mar 4 **1988 Engineering Open House**
                9:00 am - 4:00 pm
                Engineering Campus

Sat   Mar 5 **1988 Engineering Open House**
                9:00 am - 4:00 pm
                Engineering Campus

Tues Mar 8 SIGART Meeting
                7:00 pm
                223 Greg Hall

Weds Mar 9 NEWSLETTER STAFF Meeting
                7:00 pm
                ACM Lounge, 1204 W. Springfield, Room 301

Fri   Mar 11 ACM National Lectureship Series - Mr. Bill Rieken
                "The Myths of the Computer Consultant"
                12:00 noon
                Location to be announced