Editor’s Letter

This is my first issue as Editor of SIGACT News. I must thank Mike Langston for helping make the transition as painless as possible, and for being so darned organized. I hope I can continue his consistent record of making SIGACT News relevant, timely, and on-schedule.

When it was announced that I would be taking over as Editor, sufficiently many people started bugging me about the recommended format for submission to SIGACT News that I was spurred to write it all down. You will find it in the Announcements section of this issue, and it will appear in the first issue of every volume. My thanks must also go to the SIGACT News staff, whose contributions have helped make this issue possible. They are listed in the aforementioned Announcement.

Despite being the usual slender Summer issue, this issue contains some interesting features. In particular, the Articles section contains several items to which I would like to draw your attention. The first article, “The Glass Ceiling in Theory” addresses the issue of apparent barriers to the career progress of young female researchers in theoretical computer science. This is a potentially divisive and contentious issue, but I urge you all to read the article carefully and thoughtfully. I welcome any Letters to the Editor on this subject. The name of the author of this article has been withheld by request. The second article, “Theory of Computing: Achievements, Challenges, and Opportunities”, by Michael Loui, outgoing Program Director for theory at NSF, gives his views of the future of theoretical computer science. This, and a paper by Parikh entitled “A Test for Fuzzy Logic”, are the kind of non-technical articles on technical subjects that I would like to encourage in SIGACT News.

As always, your feedback, suggestions, and contributions will be greatly appreciated.

Ian Parberry
Editor’s Letter

I am sorry to announce that S. S. Ravi will resign from the SIGACT News staff as Journal Backlog Reporter with the next issue (Winter 1992). My thanks go to him for his valuable contribution to the SIGACT News readership and the theoretical computer science community. I am looking for a victim—volunteer to replace him, and another (not necessarily distinct) person to take over my Journal Review Column. On a more positive note, I am pleased to announce that Fran Berman joins the SIGACT News staff as CRA Status of Women Columnist; her column will be reprinted from Computing Research News (the news journal of the Computing Research Association).

Merrick Furst has informed me that Ravi Kannan and Martin Dyer shared this year’s Fulkerson Prize for their paper on approximating the volumes of polytopes. The Fulkerson Prize is awarded every three years. This year the ceremony and presentation were in Amsterdam. The Fulkerson Prize is given by the Mathematical Programming Society and the American Mathematical Society for outstanding papers in discrete mathematics. Past recipients include Karp, Khachian, Grotschel-Lovasz-Schrijver, Lenstra and Karmarkar. I am sure you will join me in offering my congratulations.

Ian Parberry

Transitions

Changes of professional address to be listed in the Transitions section of SIGACT News should be sent to the Editor, preferably by electronic mail.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Dhelaan
Deputy Director General
National Information Center
Ministry of Interior
P. O. Box 85373, Riyadh 11691
Saudi Arabia
Phone: 011-966-1-462-6637
Fax: 011-966-1-479-4131
Email: F60C018 at SAKSU00.BITNET
or dhelaan@cs.orst.edu

Amihood Amir
College of Computing
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA 30332–0280
Phone: (404) 853-0083
Email: amir@cc.gatech.edu

Hank Korth
Matsushita Info. Technology Lab.
182 Nassau St., 3rd Floor
Princeton, NJ 08542–7072
Phone: (609) 497-4600
Fax: (609) 497-4613
Email: hfk@mitl.com

Giancarlo Mauri
Dip. di Scienze dell’Informazione
Via Comelico 39
20135 Milano
Italy
Phone: +39 2 55006229
Fax: +39 2 55006253
Email: mauri@hermes.unimi.it