Below are the minutes of the business meeting of the 27th Annual Symposium on Computational Geometry, held in Paris on June 13-15, 2011. The minutes, as well as the presentations given during the business meetings, and the video/multimedia web proceedings, are also available at http://www.computational-geometry.org/

Minutes of the SoCG 2011 Business Meeting

1. Report from the local organizers

On behalf of the organizing committee (Frederic Chazal, Marc Glisse, Steve Oudot), Marc Glisse reported on the attendance to the conference and on financial issues. There were 165 registered attendees, including about 45 students. The budget was neutral (income and expenses both about 65 Keuro), thanks to several sponsors (Digiteo, Dassault Systems, Springer, CGAL, INRIA). A significant part of the budget (9 Keuro) was attributed to the fact that the conference is run as an "ACM sponsored" conference; without ACM the registration fees could have been 205 euro (instead of the current 240 euro for ACM members, 320 euro for non-members).

2. Report from the PC

Marc van Kreveld presented the report of the Program Committee, which was co-chaired by Ferran Hurtado and Marc van Kreveld. There were 146 submissions. The PC decided to accept slightly more papers than usual (55 papers = 38%), to acknowledge the fact that there were (as usual) many papers of very high quality. Marc reported on several other issues, one of which was the balance between theoretical and applied papers. Currently there are relatively few applied papers in the program. This is partially due to the fact that not that many applied papers are submitted, but perhaps also because applied papers seem to be easier to criticize. There does not seem to be an easy way to solve this, but Marc suggested that future PC's should make extra efforts to attract more submissions of applied and experimental papers and to ensure that submissions are scored and ranked in a manner that does not put them at a disadvantage over theoretical papers.

3. Report from the VC

On behalf of Jonathan Shewchuck (chair of the Video Committee, who unfortunately could not attend), Jack Snoeyink reported briefly on video submissions. There were nine submissions, of which seven were accepted (one being a Java script). The whole process went smoothly.

4. SoCG 2012

SoCG 2012 will be organized in Chapel Hill (North Carolina, USA). Tamal Dey and Sue Whitesides will be PC chairs, and Christian Knauer will be VC chair. Jack Snoeyink will be local organizer, and he gave a nice presentation about his plans (barbecue on campus as conference dinner, various accommodation possibilities including the new air-conditioned dorms). Two possible dates were proposed, of which the slightly later dates (June 17-19) seemed more popular.

5. Bids for 2013

There were three bids to organize SoCG 2013:

Guilherme Fonseca made a bid for Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), John Hershberger made a bid for Portland (Oregon, USA), and Csaba Toth made a bid for Banff (Canada). Rio de Janeiro won the bid.

6. Other announcements

Several announcements for other conferences (WADS 2011, Innovations in TCS, CCCG 2011, Graph Drawing 2011).

7. Discussion

The main point of discussion was the relation of the conference to ACM. The current situation (SoCG is organized "sponsored by ACM SIGACT and ACM SIGGRAPH") has two important consequences: the proceedings are published by ACM (which gives some prestige but also means that they are not open access) and the local organizers have to work with ACM (which gives administrative overhead, and increases the costs; see also item 1. of the minutes). An alternative would be to no longer be an ACM conference, and have the proceedings be published by Dagstuhl in their LIPIcs (Leibniz International Proceedings in Informatics) series. After a discussion of the pros and cons, a straw vote was taken about the question whether the Steering Committee should further investigate this alternative and come up with a clear proposal to be put to the community at large. The vast majority of the attendees voted in favor of this.