ANNUAL REPORT
of the ACM Education Policy Committee
For the Period: July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015
Submitted by <u>Robert B. Schnabel, Chair</u>

1. BASIC INFORMATION

1.1 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Robert B. Schnabel (Chair)
Jeffrey Forbes
Joanna Goode
Susanne Hambrusch
Elizabeth Hawthorne
J Strother Moore
Mark Nelson
Kelly Powers
Susan Rodger
Deborah Seehorn
Chris Stephenson
Mark Stehlik, Senior Advisor
Eugene H. Spafford (ACM U.S. Public Policy Council Chair, 3/1/15-present), ex officio
Edward Felten (ACM U.S. Public Policy Council Chair, 7/1/14-2/28/15), ex officio
John White (ACM Executive Director and CEO), ex officio
Renee Dopplick (ACM Director of Public Policy), ex officio

Two-year terms of current members expire June 30, 2016.

1.2 PURPOSE

The ACM Education Policy Committee (EPC) engages educators, industry, policymakers, and the public on public policy issues in computer science and computing-related education. It focuses on steps to ensure that high-quality computer science education is identified as a critical component of education policy. It reviews, researches, and gathers data and information on issues that impact computer science and computing-related education in primary, secondary, and higher education systems. It determines if

current education policies and the education systems are adequately serving the computing field and recommends improvements. It comments on proposals before governmental bodies that impact computer science education and the computing field. It educates policymakers and the public on the foundational role and importance of computer science education, its importance as a core discipline within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, and its importance to the labor market and the economy. It provides expertise on key computer science education policy issues to education, industry, and policy leaders.

1.3   COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The ACM Education Policy Committee operates mainly through listserv discussions among the members.

The ACM Education Policy Committee held a meeting on March 6, 2015, in Kansas City, Missouri. The meeting coincided with SIGCSE 2015.

2. PROJECT SUMMARY

The ACM Education Policy Committee used several strategies to achieve its mission and priorities this past year, including collaboration with other education policy stakeholders and outreach to the broader community. These actions raised the awareness of the importance of computer science and computing education.

STEM Education Coalition
ACM, through the Education Policy Committee, participated in the leadership Council of the STEM Education Coalition. The Coalition has more than 600 affiliate members worldwide. Among its activities, the Coalition worked with the White House to improve a planned reorganization of federal STEM education programs across 13 different agencies. The Coalition also raised awareness of the need for increased rigorous STEM education through media interviews, policy statements, and meetings with policy leaders. This year, the Coalition launched a new Policy Forum aimed at informing stakeholders about policy issues through public events, publications, roundtables, and other informational public functions. The Policy Forum focused this past year on career and technical education (CTE), common standards to prepare students for college and careers, and the integration of informal education opportunities into career pathways.

Congressional STEM Education Caucus Advisory Committee

This private-sector organization works with the Congressional STEM Education Caucus to inform policymakers about STEM education policy issues. It is comprised of public interest groups, trade associations, nonprofits, and corporations from a broad cross-section of the STEM community. It hosts regular debates for Congressional staff and the public. The Caucus, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, held events on STEM education and the workforce, informal education, and the Maker Movement. The Caucus also published and circulated a newsletter to Congressional Members, the Advisory Committee members, and additional relevant stakeholders. The ACM Education Policy Committee served as a resource for speaker and topic recommendations, as well as information about computer science and computing education policy.

Code.org Advisory Group

ACM, through the Education Policy Committee, participated in the computing community advisory group of Code.org. The vision of Code.org is to expand access to computer science courses, improve the quality of computer science education, and train teachers to deliver engaging and quality computer science courses.

Computer Science Education Week 2014

ACM helped promote Computer Science Education Week and the Hour of Code to its members and to the public. Senior Administration officials from the White House and the National Science Foundation unveiled several new public-private initiatives to promote computer science education at an exclusive White House kick-off event attended by one hundred educators and leaders from the computing community, including several ACM Education Policy Committee members and ACM policy staff. In opening remarks, NSF Director France A. Córdova recognized ACM's major contributions to advance computer science education. ACM's engagement in K-12 computer science education led to the original U.S. House of Representatives Resolution in 2009, H. Res. 558, endorsing a national Computer Science Education Week.

3. PLANS

3.1 PROPOSED PROJECTS

The ACM Education Policy Committee will evaluate the merits of possible engagement in the following anticipated policy activities in FY 2016:

- **Policy Research Project** Conduct research on the connection between computing education and jobs.

- **Global Workshop on Education Policy** Convene a group of educators to discuss education policy approaches in selected countries around the world.

- **Outreach** Continue efforts to keep policy leaders and the ACM community informed through publications and talks.

3.2 DIVERSITY

The ACM Education Policy Committee is composed of computer scientists, educators, practitioners, researchers, and managers from industry, nonprofit organizations, and academia. The Committee engages with a broad range of stakeholders within the STEM community, the broader education community, and the policy sector. The Committee is dedicated to furthering policy approaches to promote inclusiveness at all levels of the educational pipeline and within the computing workforce.

APPENDIX

Address list of committee members responsible for projects.

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Responsibility within the Committee: Chair