



Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Information Technology Education

Thanks and Invitation to Register for SIGITE 2020 (VIRTUAL)

It has been a challenging three months for all of us. The world is facing an unprecedented and tumultuous time with the Covid-19 pandemic and deleterious impacts of what Rev ML King called the “three major evils: the evil of racism, the evil of poverty, and the evil of war.” It is our hope that the senseless killings of George Floyd,

Jason Scurlock (in Omaha) and others will not be in vain. We need to stand together and stand up for one another, and acknowledge the fear, hurt, and outrage caused by these deaths and the history of racism in our country. We must face the fact that we still have much to do in the area of racial justice and equity; we need to do it through thoughtful reflection about using our own privilege as highly educated faculty and instructors to support and even assist in the change that is essential in our universities and society at large.

With that said, we sincerely appreciate everyone’s understanding and flexibility as the situation has continually evolved. Thanks to all the 115+ SIGITE members and supporters from around the world for submitting contributions to the conference. We also appreciate our Omaha-based corporate sponsors for continuing to support the conference at the pre-Covid19 levels without hesitation. Because of them, we are able to provide highly reduced registration rates for all attendees. The SIGITE 2020 VIRTUAL conference REGISTRATION RATES are as follows: \$50 for ACM/IEEE/SIGITE members; \$75 for non-members; \$10 for Students/

Research Scholars; \$60 for retirees; \$0 for community college/K-12 educators. No late fees. No extra on-site registration fee, but there will be no on-the-day-of-conference registration available, so PLEASE REGISTER today!

We invite you to register soon for the **SIGITE 2020 Virtual: ACM SIGITE Conference on IT Education (Theme: Technology on a Human Scale)** from **October 7th through 9th, 2020** and see for yourself what the conference will of-



We are also excited that two amazing people have already agreed to give keynotes at the virtual SIGITE 2020 conference. Mr. Stephen G. Kaniewski is the current President and CEO and the previous SVP/CIO and of Valmont Industries, a \$2.3B Fortune 1,000 manufacturing firm. Also, Dr. Maria Telleria, a graduate of MIT’s undergraduate and PhD programs, a child of Mexican immigrants, an advocate of women in STEM, and an amazing speaker will share her story and experiences establishing a startup robotics company for the construction sector. She has also agreed to invite some peers to do a panel on women in IT issues and opportunities.

fer. As we complete the reviews on July 15th and start sending out final submission information, more information about the conference agenda and list of attendees will be provided on our web site: <http://SIGITE2020.SIGITE.org>

Your SIGITE 2020 Conference Committee

- Deepak Khazanchi,
General Chair
- George Grispos,
Program Co-chair
- Harvey Siy,
Program Co-chair
- Tenace Kwaku Setor,
Local Arrangements Chair

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Special points of interest:

- SIGITE 2020 will be Virtual this year...but still great!
- Highlighted Program: Kennesaw State University
- SIGITE Research on the Model Curriculum shows the state of IT Education
- Great Conference in Tacoma!

Inside this issue:

SIGITE Member Spotlight	2
IT Program Highlight — Kennesaw State University	2
ACM Actions	3
Model Curriculum Update	3
2019 Conference Recap	3
Accreditation Update	4
Job Postings	4
The founding of SIGITE: Some History	4



SIGITE Member Spotlight

This newsletter is pleased to highlight **Gregory W. Hislop**, a Professor of Information Science in the College of Computing and Informatics at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA. He has been a member of SIGITE since 2012, and is a

long-time member of ACM and IEEE-Computer Society. He has authored or co-authored 17 papers for our SIGITE conferences, was a member of the Steering Committee for IT2008, and a member of the Revision Committee for SE2004. He has

regularly attended and presented at SIGITE conferences, and continues to contribute to computing education leadership in many venues. Look for him at our next conference – he loves to meet new members and renew acquaintances with old friends!

IT Program Highlight – Kennesaw State University



KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY

As a proud member ACM SIGITE community, the **Department of Information Technology at Kennesaw State University** offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in information technology since 1995. A leader in innovative teaching and learning, Kennesaw State University (KSU) is one of the 50 largest public institutions in the country, offering more than 150 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees to its nearly 38,000 students. Ranked a top choice for students by U.S. News, Kennesaw State is a Carnegie-designated doctoral research institution (R2), placing it among an elite group of only 6 percent of U.S. colleges and universities with an R1 or R2 status. Kennesaw State has campuses in Kennesaw and Marietta, Georgia.

Located in the Marietta campus of KSU and with over 1100 undergraduate students, over 290 graduate students, 22 full-time faculty, and numerous adjunct faculty, the Department of IT offers following degrees:

- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (BSIT)
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Information Technology (BASIT)
- Master of Science in Information Technology
- Graduate Certificates in Data Management & Analytics, Information Security, Enterprise IT Management, & Health IT
- Master of Science in Cybersecurity and

Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity (jointly offered with Institute of Cyber Workforce Development at KSU).

The BSIT and BASIT degrees are accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, www.abet.org. The MSIT is the top ranked IT master program in the State of Georgia by US News and World report and the largest departmental graduate program in KSU. Active in state of art research in data analytic, cybersecurity, fintech and other IT areas, the faculty in the Department of IT is also dedicated to offer highest quality education possible to our students.

The Department of IT is committed to work with SIGITE community to advance the IT education in the years to come.

ACM Actions

The following was reported in our Dec 2019 newsletter, but in case you missed it there, we are repeating it in this newsletter. ACM CEO Vicki L. Hanson has shared that the ACM is doing quite well financially, as are most of the ACM SIGs. It was a banner year for ACM memberships, more than ever before. The ACM also includes three Regional Councils: China, India and Europe. In one very innovative computing

education program, some extremely resourceful teachers were teaching computing not only without computers but even without electricity! We hope that makes each of you feel much less resource-constrained! She also shared two ACM initiatives: a Global Technology Policy Council; a Future of Computing Academy (pointed toward younger members), and a priority of how the ACM can help

practitioners. And BTW, if you need a distinguished speaker for your upcoming special computing event, consider one of ACM's [Distinguished Speakers](#) and ACM will pay for their transportation to your event! Lastly, remember the highly valuable [ACM Digital Library](#), which has hundreds of thousands of great publications related to computing, including the [Proceedings of SIGITE 2019!](#)



IT Model Curriculum Update

In our last newsletter, we thanked several of our SIGITE members for their substantial involvement in the most recent IT model curriculum, IT2017 (see <https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/education/curricula-recommendations/it2017.pdf>). Since then, several research efforts have keyed off this important document. At SIGITE 2019 (in Tacoma, WA), Lunt et al. presented the SIGITE-sponsored

results of how IT programs in the USA compare to the standards of this model curriculum; results are available to all on our website at: <https://www.sigite.org/wp-content/SigiteTable/SIGITE%20Scores.xlsm>.

Additionally, some of our SIGITE members have also been involved in CC2020, the ACM and IEEE-CS effort to update CC2005, an internationally significant document describing com-

puting programs in Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Information Systems, Information Technology, and Software Engineering. CC2020 will also include computing programs in Cybersecurity and Data Science, and is expected to be released in a couple of months. SIGITE members on this task force have included Adrienne Decker, Marisa Exter, Paul Leidig, and Barry Lunt. Thanks for all their hard work!



SIGITE 2019 Conference Recap

The following was in our Dec 2019 newsletter, and is repeated here for the benefit of those who did not get a chance to read it. SIGITE 2019 was held in Tacoma, WA, hosted by the University of Washington-Tacoma with Bryan Goda as the conference chair. We enjoyed staying right next to campus – and it's a very beautiful and historic campus! A pre-conference tour included the Pike Place Market, the Space Needle, and the first Starbucks. The con-

ference was one of our best attended ever (155), and included 5 workshops, 21 papers, 20 lightning talks, and 20 poster sessions. We had 3 outstanding keynote speakers, [Fernando Maymi](#), cybersecurity expert, [Neil Meldrum](#), Microsoft Global Business Manager, and [John Impagliazzo](#), a CS professor and ACM heavy hitter for many years and who has also been a great friend to our SIG. It was great to be there, and if you missed it, we missed you!



Information
Technology
Education

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We're on the Web!

<http://sigite.org>

Accreditation Update

As of this writing, there are 72 IT programs accredited as IT programs by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET. These programs are in the USA and in the United Arab Emirates, in the Philippines, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and India. This is the most ever, and it reflects strong interest in the standards set by ABET, both in the USA and internationally. The standards have been updated recently, and we believe that accreditation remains a worthy endeavor for all IT programs.

The founding of SIGITE: Some History

Information Technology is among the newest recognized computer disciplines. The explosion of the Internet and the world-wide web, beginning in about 1992 with the advent of web browsers such as Mosaic and Navigator, created a rapidly growing community of online computer users who needed to access information of all sorts from their own computers. This dramatic growth in personal and corporate use of the Internet, along with web systems, databases, and networking, gave rise to information technology (IT) programs that specifically teach these topics.

Core Pillars: As with the other computing disciplines, IT programs arose from various backgrounds at their institutions. Some, such as that at BYU, emerged from electronics programs. Others, such as the one at Georgia Southern, emerged from a technically-oriented IS background. The most common parent of all was CS. Each program retains some flavor of its origins, while adhering to the core pillars of the IT curriculum: networks, web systems, programming, databases, and human-computer interaction, all within the context of information security.

Meeting of the Minds: In December 2001, 16 of these IT programs met together near the Sundance ski resort in Utah. Hosted by BYU and RIT, this small conference was aimed at promoting a national presence for the emerging IT academic discipline. At this conference, 3 committees

Job Postings

Brigham Young University (Provo, UT): BYU's IT & Cybersecurity program anticipates hiring a faculty member with expertise in cybersecurity and information technology. If you would like to be notified about the position when it is posted, or for further information, please contact Derek Hansen at dlhansen@byu.edu. Details about the programs can be found at <https://itc.byu.edu>.

Jefferson Community College, Watertown, New York, part of the State University of New York (SUNY) system, is conducting a search for a full-time, tenure-track Lecturer of Computer Science to begin August 24, 2020. For more information about this position and to apply, please visit <http://sunyjefferson.interviewexchange.com/jobofferdetails.jsp?JOBID=123393>.

were formed: curriculum, accreditation, and professional society. Each of these committees produced results over the following years.

Model Curriculum: By 2005, the curriculum committee had a draft IT model curriculum completed and submitted to the joint Computing Curricula project of the ACM, IEEE and the AIS. A final version of the model curriculum was completed in 2008. The curriculum had a sweeping update in 2017 with our members at the forefront, and can be found on the SIGITE website.

Also in 2005, the accreditation committee had produced a draft IT-specific accreditation criteria for CAC of ABET, and the first 'pilot' program had been accredited using these criteria. Since that time, 39 programs have been accredited under these criteria.

The third committee, professional society, was also very active. Following the first meeting in Utah, the committee sponsored conferences annually (two in 2003), under the name Society for Information Technology Education (SITE). These conferences grew to include quality peer-reviewed papers. In the summer of 2003, SITE joined with ACM to become the ACM Special-Interest Group for Information Technology Education (SIGITE). SIGITE conferences continue to be among the most important gatherings for IT educators.