

ANNUAL REPORT
ACM TECHNOLOGY POLICY COUNCIL

For the Period: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Submitted by James Hendler, Chair

1. BASIC INFORMATION

1.1 Members of the Council

Jim Hendler
Chair

Michel Beaudouin-Lafon
Vice Chair

Members:

Virgilio Almeida
Vinton Cerf
Jeremy Epstein
Chris Hankin
Paola Inverardi

Lorraine Kisselburgh
Jeanna Matthews
P.J. Narayanan
Stuart Shapiro
Barbara Simons
Danny Weitzner

1.2 Standing Committees

- Europe Technology Policy Committee – Chris Hankin, Chair (June 30, 2024)
- TechBriefs Committee – Stuart Shapiro, Chair (June 30, 2023)
- U.S. Technology Policy Committee – Jeremy Epstein, Chair (June 30, 2023)

1.3 Ad Hoc Committees

None

2. PROJECT SUMMARY

| Title | Manager | Status | Spent |
|--|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>Europe Technology Policy Committee</i> | C. Hankin | | |
| Comments in High Value Dataset Consultation | | Done 06/2022 | n/a |
| Comments in Cyber Resilience Consultation | | Done 05/2022 | n/a |
| Comments in Data Act Consultation | | Done 05/2022 | n/a |
| Comments in Chips Act Framework Consultation | | Done 05/2022 | n/a |
| Comments in EC 2030 Policy Programme Consultation | | Done 12/2021 | n/a |
| Comments in "Digital Principles" Consultation | | Done 09/2021 | n/a |
| Comments in Proposed AI Regulation Consultation | | Done 08/2021 | n/a |
| Comments in EC Digital Health Data Services Consultation | | Done 07/2021 | n/a |

| | | | |
|---|------------|--------------|-------|
| <i>TechBriefs Committee</i> | S. Shapiro | | |
| Issue 3: Smart Cities | | Done 04/2022 | \$940 |
| Issue 2: Facial Recognition | | Done 02/2022 | \$900 |
| Issue 1: Computing/Climate Change | | Done 11/2021 | n/a |
| | | | |
| <i>U.S. Technology Policy Committee</i> | J. Epstein | | |
| Letter to Dept. of Justice re ADA-Compliant Websites | | Done 05/2022 | n/a |
| Comments to NIST on National AI R&D Strategic Plan | | Done 02/2022 | n/a |
| Statement to US Copyright Office re: Technical Measures | | Done 02/2022 | n/a |
| Comments to NIST on Promoting Access to Voting Report | | Done 11/2021 | n/a |
| Comments to NSF/OSTP on AI Research Resources | | Done 10/2021 | n/a |
| Comments on NIST Risk Management Framework | | Done 08/2021 | n/a |
| Statement: Principles for Secure Remote Test Administration | | Done 08/2021 | n/a |
| Comments to OSTP Enhancing Federal Scientific Integrity | | Done 07/2021 | n/a |
| Comments to NIST on Promoting Access to Voting | | Done 07/2021 | n/a |

3. **PLANS**

3.1 **List projects that will be completed or terminated in the coming year.**

- *TechBriefs* Issue 5: *Election Security: Risk Limiting Audits* (completed October 2022)
- *TechBriefs* Issue 4: *Quantum Computing & Simulation* (completed July 2022)
- USTPC 30th Anniversary/ACM Policy video (Q1 2023)
- TPC reissuance of updated Statement on algorithmic safety produced by policy Committees
- Development of TPC Strategic Plan (est. Q3 2023)
- Targeted outreach to aligned international organizations re: joint activity, programs (ongoing)

3.2 **List important changes or milestones in active projects during the coming year.**

- Shift *TechBriefs* to quarterly publication schedule; work to populate extended issue “pipeline”

3.3 **List new projects or programs which are proposed or contemplated.**

- With ACM Communications, develop “policy education/engagement” campaign
- Direct outreach to global membership to identify key current and “horizon” issues to address
- Informally explore catalyzation of member policy activities in Global South, other regions

3.4 **List details of plan to increase the diversity on the Board with respect to younger members, a wider geographic representation, and a better balance with respect to industry/academia, gender, and other under-represented groups.**

The Council per se is primarily made up of senior members of the policy community. It oversees three committees (see above), each of which works actively to attract younger

members. The current Council includes 4 women and 9 men, includes members from 5 countries, and a mix of academic and industrial members. The Council needs a member from Africa (the only major continent not represented) and identifying and recruiting someone will be a major activity. Several of the members of the Council are hearing impaired, and we use assistive technology on calls and at meetings to help make sure that everyone is included.

4. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

Describe your efforts related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

All three of our committees are reminded of the importance of DEI and work to maintain balance of gender and other items. The USTPC made a concerted, and successful, effort to attract student members. The other two committees are exploring how to use similar models.

5. COMMENTS

List any comments you wish brought to Council's attention.

The *global* TPC is working to find ways to interact with more of the international community beyond the US and Europe. While we are in discussion with the India Council, it is clear they are not ready to create a full India Technology Policy Committee and other parts of ACM’s international membership don’t yet have ways to engage with the TPC. We are exploring new ways for ‘ad hoc’ groups to propose “technology letters” for publication by the TPC, and better ways to engage the ACM President, Council and Executive Committee to help prioritize the international policy issues on which future Tech Briefs may focus.

Please provide a brief (paragraph) summary of one or two of your activities that would be of interest to the broad ACM community (or provide a link to a write-up of such information).

As well as the products described in Section 2 above, the work of the TPC and its three committees are regularly reported upon in ACM’s monthly MemberNet. In addition, the TechBriefs committee has created a recognizable brand for major policy issues and has received strong positive feedback on the briefs we have released thus far. All [TechBriefs](#) are published in the ACM Digital Library. Each of the four Briefs published at this writing has been downloaded several thousand times:

| Issue | Published | Title | Downloads |
|--------------|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Nov 2021 | Computing and Climate Change | 4717 |
| 2 | Feb 2022 | Facial Recognition | 2925 |
| 3 | April 2022 | Smart Cities | 3281 |
| 4 | July 2022 | Quantum Computing and Simulation | 3085 |
| | | <i>TOTAL</i> | <i>14,008</i> |

APPENDIX

List of all committee members, subcommittee or subunit chairs and members, and other persons responsible for projects. Use this format:

Name: James Hendler

Email: hendler@cs.rpi.edu

Responsibility: TPC Chair

Name: Michel Beaudouin-Lafon

Email: mbl@lri.fr

Responsibility: TPC Vice Chair

Name: Chris Hankin

Email: c.hankin@imperial.ac.uk

Responsibility: Chair, Europe Technology Policy Committee

Name: Stuart Shapiro

Email: s_shapiro@acm.org

Responsibility: Chair TechBriefs Committee

Name: Jeremy Epstein

Email: jeremy.j.epstein@gmail.com

Responsibility: Chair, US Technology Policy Committee