2018 Imaging Science Business Meeting Notes

Gitta Kutyniok (GK), SIAG/IS Chair, led the business meeting. GK thanked the previous officers, Eric Miller, Omar Ghattas, and Julianne Chung for their service. GK also thanked the conference co-chairs, local committee, local volunteers, and scientific committee for making the current meeting a success. The current SIAG officers then presented a few slides, which can be downloaded from: http://www.mathcs.emory.edu/~Iruthot/talks/SIAGIS18-BM.pdf
A few items that the meeting focused on are briefly summarized here.

Awards

GK highlighted that the SIAM fellow classes of 2017 and 2018 each included three members of the activity group and congratulated all new fellows. She also urged members to submit nominations for the SIAG/IS Early Career Prize and the SIAG/IS Best Paper Prize well before the next meeting in 2020.

Membership

GK gave an overview of the current subscription and membership demographics, see slides 7-14 for details. As of 12/31/17, the SIAG had 615 members. Among the notable positive developments is an overall increase of AG membersips that is driven by student members. The attendees agreed that efforts should be made to increase the number of female members. GK presented the many benefits of SIAM memberships, which members can use when encouraging colleagues to join the SIAG (see slide 15).

SIAM IS 2018

Fiorella Sgallari (FS), SIAG/IS Vice-Chair, presented information about the current meeting. FS thanked the Co-Chair, Omar Ghattas, the scientific committee, and the organizing committee for their efforts leading up to the meeting. The attendance almost doubled as compared to the last meeting reading about 800 attendees. Remarkably, among the participants, there were more than 170 Ph.D. students.

SIAM IS 2020

Stacey Levine (SL), SIAG/IS Program Director, presented information about upcoming 2020 meeting. SL presented the plan to co-host the conference with the annual meetings of SIAM and the Canadian Applied and Industrial Mathematics Society (CAIMS) on July 6-10 in Toronto, Canada. This idea was brought up by SIAM. Among the benefits are that SIAM would take care of most logistics and the location in downtown seems attractive and provided a range of accommodation options. All talks will be held in the same hotel. SL presented this current plan to the attendees and solicited feedback and concerns. The only concern, raised by Omar Ghattas, was that the conference would be later than usual which might give rise to conflicts with other meetings. No such example was identified during the meeting, and no major

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concerns were raised. Thus, the SIAG offers will move forward with this after a final search of related meetings for possible overlap.

SL also solicited ideas about how to increase the number of poster session participants and limit the number of concurrent sessions. This led to some discussion which included ideas of hosting a poster blitz and offering poster awards. Jim Nagy remarked that recruiting senior researchers to organize poster sessions or present posters themselves can further increase the attractiveness of poster sessions and shared positive experiences from SIAG/LA. Also limiting contributed sessions found support. Rosemary Renault pointed out that the remaining contributed sessions should receive the same speaking time than talks in mini-symposia to make it easier for participants to switch sessions.

SIAM IS meetings beyond 2020

Motivated by highly successful meetings in Hong Kong and Bologna, there is support for the idea to alternate the locations for the SIAM IS meeting between North America and overseas. Since SIAM can only provide very limited support for conferences hosted overseas, there needs to be a strong proposal and team of local organizers before the 2020 meeting. The SIAG encourages anyone who would like to host the 2022 meeting to reach out to the SIAG.

The SIAG officers will collect and post announcements of meetings related to imaging science in the SIAG Wiki. Members are strongly encouraged to reach out to the current SIAG officers to share information about meetings currently not listed.

Mathematics of Data Science

There was an open discussion about the foundation of the new SIAM journal on the mathematics of data science (MDS) and its implications. The discussion focused on two aspects: a SIAM conference on MDS and the creation of an activity group. GK reported on some discussions among the current officers and an email exchange with Ali Pinar, the chair of the SIAG on data mining, regarding those aspects. Gabriele Steidl brought up the idea of including data science into our SIAG. While this option received support and was found to be interesting, it was noted that data science also overlaps with other existing activity groups who should be involved in the process. In the context of initiating a conference on data science, Omar Ghattas pointed out that the first SIAM CSE meeting preceded the corresponding AG. As a concrete next step, GK will reach out to the chairs of related activity groups to see if there is interest to join forces organizing the first instance of a SIAM Conference on Data Science.