

# SIGecom News

DAVID C. PARKES  
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

---

Ariel Procaccia invited me to provide a mid-year news update on what's going on with the SIG.

Every ACM SIG (Special Interest Group) is reviewed for viability every four years, and SIGecom was reviewed at the October ACM business meeting. I'm glad to report that we were deemed viable, and encouraged to continue meeting the needs of the SIGecom community through our various activities.

Beyond viability, some other things that I learned at October's ACM business meeting:

- 50% of ACM membership overall is now outside of the US (compared to 40% for SIGecom), with strong growth in Europe, India in China. Our sister conferences such as KDD and SIGGRAPH are holding or planning to hold conferences in China for the first time.
- As a 3-year experiment, we can choose to open up the proceedings of the current EC conference to open access via our SIG page or the conference site, and keep the proceedings open until the next conference. I think we should do this and expect that it will increase the dissemination of EC papers.
- Some larger SIGs get in excess of \$75,000/year from the ACM as their share of DL revenue (overall, the DL generates approaching 1/3 of the ACM's revenue). We receive around \$10,000/year, but by using more Author-Izer links and driving more clicks we could drive this up. Author-Izer is here:  
<http://www.acm.org/publications/acm-author-izer-service> (hint hint!)

We've had a successful year, notably with our first EC conference held outside of North America, and with the first papers being accepted to the *Transactions on Economics and Computation*. EC'12 was well attended, with 170 attendees including more than 30 cross-registrations from AAMAS'12. The conference ran a small surplus, and our finances remain healthy.

We were able to support student attendance at a new workshop on *Computational and Online Social Science* (CAOSS) at Columbia. WINE'12, which will take place in Liverpool in December, is an "in cooperation" event.

Planning for EC'13 is moving forward well under the stewardship of Michael Kearns and colleagues at U. Penn. The EC'13 conference will be held in Philadelphia, June 16-20, 2013. The program chairs, Preston McAfee and Eva Tardos, have continued the recent pattern of emphasizing three (non-exclusive) focus areas, and having a matching structure to the SPC. I believe this is important for sustaining

---

Author's address: [parkes@eecs.harvard.edu](mailto:parkes@eecs.harvard.edu)

a conference that is welcoming to a variety of styles of research at the interface of economics and computation.

Please consider submitting a workshop or tutorial proposal to EC'13. Workshops are a good way to bring together an interdisciplinary audience around a new set of problems. I'm sure that both Moshe Babaioff (workshop chair, [ec13-workshops-chair@acm.org](mailto:ec13-workshops-chair@acm.org)) and Ariel Procaccia (tutorial chair, [ec13-tutorial-chair@acm.org](mailto:ec13-tutorial-chair@acm.org)) would be glad to provide informal feedback about ideas in advance of the February deadline for proposals.

In closing, thanks to all of the volunteers that make the activities of the SIG possible. A special shout-out this year to Ariel for taking on the Exchanges newsletter from Yiling Chen, who has done an excellent job in cementing its role in promoting an ongoing exchange of ideas. Thanks also to Boi Faltings, Panos Ipeirotis and Kevin Leyton-Brown for a wonderful EC'12.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or suggestions about the SIG, and see you in Philadelphia!

Yours,  
David Parkes  
President, ACM SIGecom