

CANDIDATES FOR THE UPCOMING ACM SIGMOD ELECTIONS

Mike Franklin
Chair, ACM SIGMOD Nominating Committee

A clear sign of a healthy organization is the willingness of its members to volunteer their time to support and guide it. SIGMOD is particularly fortunate in this regard. As evidence is the slate of candidates listed on the following pages. These six people have agreed to run for positions as SIGMOD officers, and if elected, are committed to overseeing and improving the wide-ranging activities of SIGMOD and continuing the progress that has made us one of the leading SIGs in ACM.

The slate was chosen through a rigorous process required by ACM. In September 2004, current SIGMOD Chair Tamer Özsu asked me to chair the nominating committee. I signed on, provided that Tamer agreed to be one of the committee members, which he did. I then invited three additional senior members to join the committee: Hank Korth of Lehigh University, Beng Chin Ooi of the National University of Singapore, and Timos Sellis of the National Technical University of Athens. Fortunately, they all accepted.

We then solicited nominations by posting on DBWorld, emailing to the SIGMOD membership list, and canvassing the SIGMOD Executive and Advisory Committees. These nominations were then collected and supplemented by additional suggestions from the nominating committee. The nominating committee went through numerous rounds of discussions, agreed on a slate of candidates and invited them. Then the real work of convincing these busy people to run began. With the help of the formidable persuasive skills of the existing SIGMOD officers and board members, we were able to assemble the excellent slate of candidates you see here.

In the following, the candidates outline their plans and aspirations for the organization. I would like to thank the candidates for agreeing to run, the committee members for their efforts in organizing the candidate slate, and everyone else who supplied well-timed advice, arm twisting, and encouragement to the candidates. Finally, I'd like to encourage you to show your active support for SIGMOD by voting in the election.

CANDIDATES FOR ACM SIGMOD CHAIRPERSON

PROF. AHMED ELMAGARMID

PURDUE UNIV., USA



- **Professional Experience:**

Professor, Purdue University, 1988-Present.
Professor, Pennsylvania State University 1985-1988.
Corporate Chief Scientist, Hewlett-Packard, 2001-2003

- **Current areas of professional interest:**

Database Systems; Video analysis, mining and processing; Data sharing and integration; Technical roadmaps and architectures; Corporate strategic planning.

- **ACM activities:**

Industrial Program Chair, ACM SIGMOD Conference, 1994.
Industrial Program Co-Chair, ACM SIGMOD Conference, 1993.
Editorial Board, ACM SIGMOD Digital Review.

- **Membership and offices in related organizations:**

Program Committee chair and general chair ICDE 1993 and 1994.
Editorial Board, IEEE Tran. on Knowledge and Data Engineering (1999 for 2 terms).
Founding Editor-in-Chief, International Journal on Distributed and Parallel Databases, Kluwer, 1992-Present.

- **Awards received:**

NSF Presidential Young Investigator Award, 1988.
Distinguished Alumni Award, Ohio State University, 1993.
Distinguished Alumni Award, University of Dayton, 1995.

- **Statement:**

I have been a member of the ACM and SIGMOD since graduate school and while I have not served in SIGMOD as an officer, I have served the SIGMOD conference in various roles over the years. I have also been very active in the IEEE TCDE, ICDE and DE Bulletin for several years.

If elected, my focus would be to broaden the membership base, the scope and the reach of SIGMOD. I will try to do that by continuing the wonderful work done by Rick Snodgrass on digital libraries and the great progress made by Tamer Özsu in taking SIGMOD outside of North America. Tamer and Rick have set the bar and continued in the tradition of excellence that SIGMOD has been known for over the years. If elected, I will emphasize certain tactical and strategic issues such as to: 1) broaden the definition of database research and the scope of SIGMOD; 2) continue the hard work on SIGMOD Anthology and DiSC. I will expand the role of SIGMOD in digital publishing and dissemination of database literature; 3) place added emphasis on liaison activities with government and industry; 4) become more proactive in providing input to funding agencies; 5) continue the spirit of cooperation with the VLDB Endowment, IEEE and professional publishers; 6) organize educational opportunities for researchers in emerging countries and expand the reach of SIGMOD to members outside North America. Great strides have been made under the leadership of Tamer Ozsu in this regard, I will follow up on the programs he started and will expand the membership base from within and outside of North America; and finally, 7) pay closer attention to budgetary issues.

If elected, the new SIGMOD officers will listen to members of previous administrations and to the membership at large in order to focus on the right issues and the right solutions. Financial soundness has been a cornerstone of all ACM SIGs and particularly of SIGMOD. I will work hard on making SIGMOD even more fiscally sound. We will attempt to keep expenses under check while increasing revenues. One way to maintain lower fees for conference registration is to increase the membership both in North America and abroad. I will attempt to increase the membership base from the current number of about 2800 members by about 10% in North America and 25% overall. This I believe is a reasonable target if we place incentives for more students to join SIGMOD. We can take advantage of current plans that call for SIGMOD'07 to be in China to attract more new members. I will work with the local chapters in order to improve the value proposition of SIGMOD and attract new membership. One way SIGMOD is currently financed is through income from the digital library. Expanding the role SIGMOD plays in the publication and dissemination of database literature should be one of my goals. I will work closely with the editors of DiSC and the Anthology to expand and improve these two great vehicles. I would also promote the idea of establishing courses that would be offered through a distinguished speaker program that will be offered through live lectures and using the web. The three goals of

