

SIAM Activity Group on Geometric Design

Business Meeting Minutes

18 June 2019

Simon Fraser University, Harbour Centre, Room JRS 1420
515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Time: 6:35–7:20 pm

Attendance: approximately 25

Activity Group Officers

Chair:	Rida Farouki (present)
Vice Chair:	Timothy Strotman (unable to attend)
Program Director:	Carlotta Giannelli (unable to attend)
Secretary:	Tom Cashman (unable to attend)

Note: The meeting slides along with these minutes represent the complete report of the SIAG/GD Business Meeting. These notes will not repeat the content of the slides.

Rida Farouki conducted the meeting. He thanked the previous officers and the GD19 conference organizers for their hard work.

Announcements

- Members were encouraged to share information of interest to SIAG/GD members via the electronic mailing list siam-gd@siam.org which is moderated by the Chair and Secretary.
- Members were encouraged to present story ideas for SIAM News or post short essays to SIAM Blogs.
- It was noted that there was no SIAM Fellow nomination from SIAG/GD in 2019. Members were encouraged to submit nominations for the class of 2020 before the deadline of November 1, 2019.
- The activity group has established an Early Career prize to honor young members of the SIAG/GD community. It will be awarded for the first time at the next SIAG/GD conference in 2021. Members were encouraged to submit nominations. Details about the nomination process will follow.

- Graphs in the SIAG/GD Membership Report indicate that our SIAG is growing but is currently the smallest SIAG in size. The Chair pointed out that SIAM members can nominate two students for free membership. He said if everyone nominated two students and encouraged them to join our SIAG (also free), our membership would increase tremendously.
- For the GD19 conference, a Special Issue of *Computer Aided Geometric Design* will serve as a kind of post-proceedings, giving the participants the chance to publish the work that they presented at the conference. The Call for Papers will be published soon.

SIAG/GD Conference Registrations

The number of registrants has dropped from 400–500 at the first conferences in 1985 and 1987 to about 81 for GD17. For GD19, this number is hard to estimate, since participants registered for the entire Geometry Summit. The number of registrants for the latter exceeded 200. The Chair reported that possible reasons for the general decline are the number of conferences that we must “compete” with (back in 1985, ours was the only geometry-related conference, today there are also SPM, GMP, SMI, and SGP), as well as the rather high conference fees. What can be done?

- Cost might not be the major factor, but moving back to smaller cities will probably help keeping costs down.
- Moving the conference back to the Fall should help avoid conflicts with related conferences, as it would be the only geometry-related conference in that period.
- Evolving this year’s post-proceedings (see above) into an additional track of reviewed contributions, published in conference proceedings (as offered by other geometry-related conferences) should help to attract especially junior participants.

Next Conference – GD21

Several proposals for the next conference(s) were discussed:

- Frequency: every 18 months, alternating Fall and early Summer (Konrad Polthier); back to the biannual schedule in Fall (Rida Farouki)
- Co-location: back to joint conferences with SPM (Kai Hormann); join the next Geometry Summit in 2022 (Konrad Polthier)
- Location: UC Davis campus (Rida Farouki)

Meeting scribe: Kai Hormann (in place of Tom Cashman)