

## Panel Proposal: National Leadership Opportunities

Regardless of career path — academia, government research lab, or industry — the early years of a scientific career are typically narrowing, as you establish yourself and focus your research. But even as you do so, you can connect and establish in other ways. One of the delights of being a researcher is the ability to participate in organizations that shape the field and shape policy. This panel will focus on national leadership opportunities.

Such opportunities are a form of giving; this service comes on top of a regular position and it is rarely as important to your organization as the next paper, the next patent, or the next new thing. But such service is also a form of getting. National leadership provides a researcher a way to connect with a wider world, to interact with scientists outside her institution and outside her discipline, and to help set field and national policy. Such service is beneficial to the individual — it can help establish the researcher as a leader — and to the field.

There are opportunities to participate in reviewing, in shaping the profession, in establishing national scientific priorities and policy directions. In this panel, we will concentrate on five types of national leadership opportunities:

- NSF and DARPA, both as review panelists and as rotators
- editorships and program committees
- Computer Science and Telecommunications Board (National Research Council)
- ACM/CRA service
- advisory boards

Questions to be addressed include:

- What does the panelist do in this position?
- Why is serving in this position interesting?
- What is its impact (on the field, on science, on public policy)?

- What are/were the costs to the panelist of participating?
- What did the participant gain?
- How did she get to that position?
- What other paths are there to these types of positions?

**Panel Organizer and Moderator:** Dr. Susan Landau is Senior Staff Engineer at Sun Microsystems Laboratories, where she concentrates on security and public policy. She currently is working on digital rights management. Her previous activities included work on cryptography and export control. Before joining Sun, Landau was a faculty member at the University of Massachusetts and Wesleyan University, and held visiting positions at Yale, Cornell, and the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute at Berkeley. She and Whitfield Diffie have written “Privacy on the Line: The Politics of Wiretapping and Encryption.” She presently serves on the Information Security and Privacy Advisory Board, a Federal advisory board and she moderates researchHers, a mailing list for women computer science researchers. Landau received her PhD from MIT (1983), her MS from Cornell (1979), and her BA from Princeton (1976).

**Panelist:** Dr. Helen Gill is a Program Director in the Computer and Networked Systems (CNS) Divison of the Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Directorate at the National Science Foundation. She is responsible for the area of Embedded and Hybrid Systems in the Division of Computer and Network research. Previously, she managed NSF programs in software engineering and programming languages. She also served as Program Manager at DARPA, where she initiated and managed research programs in software-enabled control, embedded systems, and formal aspects of software.

**Panelist:** Professor Catherine McGeoch is currently Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Amherst College. She is Editor in Chief of the Journal on Experimental Algorithmics (JEA), a publication of the ACM. She was previously an associate editor for JEA, and in the past has served as associate editor of: Theory of Computing Systems, the American Mathematical Monthly, and the Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics. Professor McGeoch was the founding co-chair of the Alenex workshops on Experimental Algorithmics, and was the founding coordinator of

the Dimacs Challenges. Her research interests are in areas of experimental analysis of algorithms, and approximation algorithms for NP-Hard problems. She received her PhD (1986) and MS (1983) degrees from Carnegie Mellon University, and her BS (1981) degree in mathematics and computer science from Butler University.

**Panelist:** Dr. Jennifer Rexford is a member of the Network Management and Performance department at AT&T Labs–Research in Florham Park, New Jersey. Her research focuses on methods and tools for operating large IP networks, such as AT&T’s tier-1 IP backbone. Jennifer is chair of ACM SIGCOMM and serves on DARPA’s Information Science and Technology group and the technical advisory board of Arbor Networks. She was a committee member for the National Research Council study on “The Internet Under Crisis Conditions: Learning from September 11” and served for several years on the advisory board of MentorNet, an e-mentoring program for women in science and engineering. She is a senior member of the IEEE and is coauthor of the book “Web Protocols and Practice: HTTP/1.1, Networking Protocols, Caching, and Traffic Measurement” (Addison-Wesley, 2001) with Balachander Krishnamurthy. Jennifer received her BSE degree in electrical engineering from Princeton University in 1991, and her MSE and PhD degrees in computer science and electrical engineering from the University of Michigan in 1993 and 1996, respectively.

**Panelist:** Dr. Barbara Simons is a technology policy consultant. She earned her Ph.D. from U.C. Berkeley, and was a computer science researcher at IBM Research, where she worked on compiler optimization, algorithm analysis, and scheduling theory. A former ACM President, Simons co-chairs the ACM’s US Public Policy Committee (USACM). She served on the NSF panel on Internet Voting, the President’s Export Council’s Subcommittee on Encryption, and the President’s Council on the Year 2000 Conversion. She is on several Boards of Directors, including the U.C. Berkeley Engineering Fund and EPIC, as well as the Advisory Board of the Oxford Internet Institute and the Public Interest Registry’s .ORG Advisory Council. She has testified before both the U.S. and the California legislatures. She is a Fellow of ACM and the AAAS. She received the Alumnus of the Year Award from the Berkeley Computer Science Department, the Norbert Wiener Award from CPSR, the Outstanding Contribution Award from ACM, and the Pioneer Award from EFF.