

Delaware Valley: "In the Beginning..."

A documentary film of the historical session of the 1967 ACM National Conference held in Washington, D.C.

Los Angeles: Panel—"Separate Pricing for Software." The panel examined the questions of separate pricing from the viewpoints of a software company, a broker of programs, and a computer manufacturer.

CHAPTER CHAIRMEN ADVISE ACM.

The summarized response from 57 of the 79 chapters to a recent record-keeping questionnaire was discussed over lunch at the Chapter Chairmen's meeting held in Las Vegas. At the suggestion of several chapters, ACM Headquarters is considering assistance with chapter membership records on an "as requested" basis. Installation of a computer-based system for national membership records at Headquarters will permit a gradual increase in services offered in 1969. The goal will be to relieve chapter leadership from some clerical duties, thus freeing their resources for chapter professional and community service activities.

Representatives from 37 chapters had many suggestions for capabilities required of such a system and for the course such assistance should take. The need for reliable and responsive service was made clear, and several interested chapters will cooperate to prove performance during a trial period.

The good representation from chapters across the country promoted a fruitful interchange with ACM officials on such matters as scheduling of ACM National Lecturers, the preliminary activity report summary, and Council actions.—
JOHN L. BENNETT

ACM WELCOMES NEW CHAPTERS CHARTERED IN AUGUST. Following presentation of the required petitions including signatures, the ACM Council, at its August Meeting, voted to charter three new chapters. They are the Fort Worth, Greater Mobile, and Honolulu chapters.

Chairmen for the newly formed chapters are:

Fort Worth A. A. J. Hoffman

Greater Mobile J. B. Tinker

Honolulu W. R. Cole, III

Four student chapters (given with their Chairmen) were also chartered by Council action at the August meeting:

New Mexico State University

Student Chapter Robert A. Barnard

Carnegie-Mellon University Student

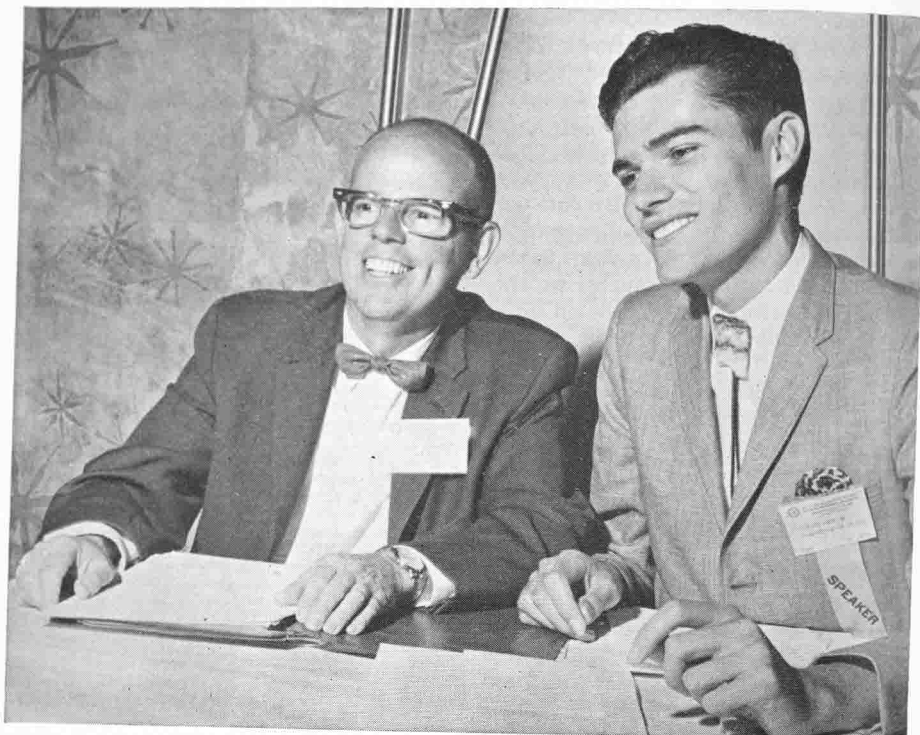
Chapter Richard K. Dove

University of California, San Diego

Student Chapter Sandra E. Hutchins

Greater New Orleans Student Chapter

Louis Seiber, Jr.



Dr. Gary Carlson of Brigham Young University, the newly appointed chairman of the ACM Committee on Student Membership and Student Chapters, is seated with Prentiss Knowlton, one of the three undergraduate student members of ACM who presented papers at the 1968 National Conference in Las Vegas. Knowlton has just graduated from California State College at Los Angeles and is now in graduate school at Harvard. The other two student member speakers were H. R. Lewis and Donald Shepard, both of Harvard University. These three papers were chosen for presentation in regular competition with all unsolicited papers submitted for the conference.

The title of Knowlton's paper was "The Use of an Algebraic Language as Both a Source and Target Language"; H. R. Lewis' was entitled, "SHAPESHIFTER: An Interactive Program for Mathematical Experimentation"; and D. Shepard presented "A Two-Dimensional Interpolation Function for Irregularly Spaced Data."

A COMPUTER SCIENCE HONOR SOCIETY. A highlight of the Student Chapters breakfast meeting at the 1968 ACM National Conference was the presentation of information about Upsilon Pi Epsilon which has been chartered in the state of Texas as an honor society for computer science students. It presently exists as one chapter located at Texas A&M University. This chapter consists of 85 members and although no national organization exists an account has been established for one with about \$1,000 in it. It is the desire of the A&M chapter to cause other chapters to be established at universities with computer science programs and in cooperation with these chapters establish a formal, national organization.

The Association for Computing Machinery has endorsed the UPE concept and has agreed to encourage its spread to other universities through student chapters of ACM. Those who are interested should write to Prof. Dan Drew, Data Processing Center, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

Members of the A&M chapter have adopted a chapter constitution and by-

laws and have drafted a proposed national constitution and by-laws. A key has been designed, adopted and distributed to current UPE members and certificates have also been issued. These items are available as information to those wishing to organize a chapter and help construct a national organization.

Standards for admission emphasize a high grade point ratio and noted achievements or contributions to the academic aspects of computer science. The records of past graduates of A&M's Computer Science Program as well as present members were included in surveys made by membership committees.

CORRECTION. In the ACM Reference Guide—ACM Chapters and Chapter Chairmen, which appeared in the August issue of *Communications*, Moritz Farbshtein was erroneously listed as president of the Auburn University student chapter. Thomas W. Littaver is chairman at Auburn; Farbshtein is chairman of the Washington University (Mo.) student chapter.

SIG/SIC CHAIRMEN MEET. A meeting of SIG/SIC chairmen or their representatives, as well as ACM officers and committee chairmen, was held on August 27, 1968, at the ACM 1968 National Conference. The meeting was chaired jointly by Mr. Charles L. Bradshaw (retiring chairman of the ACM Committee on SIG/SICs) and Miss Jean E. Sammet (newly appointed chairman).

Comments were heard from Marvin Ehlers, Technical Program chairman for this conference, which was the first based very heavily on participation by the SIGs and SICs.

Bradshaw was strongly commended by all those present for his excellent work as SIG/SIC Committee chairman during the past two years. Miss Sammet indicated that she hoped to continue the good work.

It was announced that the ACM Council had approved a Special Interest Committee on Computer Science Education (SICCSE), and a Special Interest Committee (SICSOC).

Miss Sammet said that the ACM Headquarters liaison for SIG/SIC activities is Mrs. Irene Hollister. It was reported that problems in collecting SIG dues would probably be resolved by ACM

Headquarters around January 1969 with their new system.

ACM President Galler affirmed his belief in the importance of the SIG/SIC activities. In line with the new Council plan of assigning liaison members to working committees, Mr. Walter M. Carlson (ACM Vice-President) was named the official Council liaison to the Committee on SIG/SICs.

Miss Sammet voiced her personal hope and belief that the special interest activities would grow until they became the major organizational units within ACM. There seems to be informal agreement by a number of people that this is indeed the correct direction in which to head.

To assist in developing a long range plan to bring this about, as well as to cope with many other matters pertaining to the SIG/SICs, a steering committee is being formed; currently it consists of Charles Bradshaw, Norman Discount, George Glaser, and Joe Traub. In addition, where practical and relevant, it is hoped that representatives to other ACM committees will be named to provide appropriate liaison between the SIG/SICs and other facets of ACM.

The November issue of *CACM* will contain an up-to-date reference guide to ACM SIGs and SICs. Persons interested in joining a particular SIG/SIC should

address a letter to the particular SIG/SIC, c/o ACM Headquarters. Persons interested in forming a new Special Interest Committee should contact Miss Jean E. Sammet, Chairman, Committee on SIG/SICs, IBM, 545 Technology Square, Cambridge, MA 02139.—JEAN E. SAMMET

ACM SIGPLAN ELECTS WEGNER CHAIRMAN. The ACM Special Interest Group on Programming Languages (SIGPLAN) has elected Professor Peter Wegner as chairman. Wegner is associate professor of computer science at Cornell University, and the author of several books dealing with programming languages.

Since this is the first election held by the recently formed SIGPLAN, the newly elected officers will serve an abbreviated term ending June 30, 1969. The normal term of office for SIGPLAN is two years.

SIGBDP TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FORMED. A Technical Advisory Committee has been formed to assist George Glaser, chairman of the ACM Special Interest Group on Business Data Processing. It will advise the chairman and the special interest group on matters of a technical nature.

Members of the SIGBDP Technical Advisory Committee are:

Charles W. Bachman—Manager, Application Techniques, GE; Richard G. Canning—Canning Publications, Inc.; Paul J. Dixon—Manager, Philadelphia Office, Auerbach Corp.; Fred C. Ihrer—Executive Vice-President and Technical Director, Compress Inc.; William C. McGee—IBM, Palo Alto; and Donald B. Pierson—Independent Consultant, Tenafly, New Jersey.

The Association for Computing Machinery established the Special Interest Group on Business Data Processing several months ago to help bridge the communications gap between business management and computer professionals.

The SIGBDP has been active in planning sessions of interest to the business data processing community for the 1968 ACM National Conference in Las Vegas—August 27-29, 1968 and for the Fall Joint Computer Conference in San Francisco in December, 1968.

NAVY CAI BIBLIOGRAPHY AVAILABLE. A comprehensive CAI bibliography, which is continuously updated, is available without cost by addressing the author Gerald L. Engel (Code KPS), Commander, US Naval Weapons Laboratory, Dahlgren, VA 22448.



Dr. Leland H. Williams of Auburn University, Southeast Regional Representative and former Chairman of the ACM Committee on Student Membership and Student Chapters, is shown receiving a certificate of the ACM Committee on Student Membership in Upsilon Pi Epsilon, a new scholastic honor fraternity for students of the of honorary membership at the breakfast meeting of ACM student chapter representatives held at the computers sciences at the breakfast meeting of ACM student chapter representatives held at the ACM National Conference in Las Vegas. The presentation was made by Prof. Dan Drew, faculty advisor of the Texas A&M Student Chapter and advisor to UPE at Texas A&M. Barry Bateman, president of the student chapter and a charter member of UPE, looks on. Dr. Williams was accorded this honor by the founding chapter of UPE at TEXAS A&M in appreciation for his cooperation with UPE's efforts to build the honor society into a national organization.

The command

WTEST R0 T1

will cause the following:

TESTING

R0

((N) # P A P A #)

((N)) # P A P A #)

R0

R1

((N) # P A B A #)

R2

R2A

((N) # P A' B A #)

R3

R3A

((N) # P A' B A- #)

R3B

R3C

((N) # P A' B- A- #)

R4

R4A

R4B

R5

((N) # P A' B- A- #)

The initial two lines contain the original test items. Each rule name is printed out before it is applied, and if it is applicable the changed tree is printed. In this case one can easily see that R1, R2A, R3A, and R3C caused all the changes. The final result is also printed at the bottom. The diacritic ' indicates stress; - indicates de-voicing.

A set of rules can be applied to a tree containing more than one syntactic unit. If so, all substructures are transformed first, and the results minus the syntactic categories of the substructure concatenated before transformation on the next level.

Editing and Output Capabilities

The phonological rule testing system has certain editing capabilities built into it as well as having access to the BBN LISP editor (Bobrow, et al. [2]) both of which can be used to modify the list structures representing rules, trees, and phonemes. Insertions, deletions, and replacements and other more sophisticated changes are made easily after a very short learning period. To delete any defined item the user need type only

DEL <name><type>

where <name> is the name of a rule, phoneme, or tree, and <type> is either RULE, PHONEME, or TREE.

Definitions are printed out by using one of two print commands. The instruction

P R1

will cause the system to respond with (using the above definition)

R1 = (+ CNS - CONT - VOICE)
 (+ CONT + VOICE)
 / (+ VOC) - (+ VOC)

The instruction

PR <type>

will cause the entire inventory of the <type> specified to be printed. Using the definition above, PR RULES would result in the output shown in the first paragraph under the heading "Testing Capabilities."

The instruction EDIT calls the BBN LISP editor without leaving the phonological rule tester system. The command

EDIT R1 RULE

allows one to edit the rule R1.

The use of this editor has been described elsewhere and is not presented here (cf. Bobrow et al. [2]).

From the phonological system, a user can write a file containing the data he has generated. By typing

SAVE <NAME>

a file of that <NAME> will be created and saved. It later can be loaded to initialize the system.

Conclusion

In designing this phonological rule tester, we have endeavored to include capabilities which facilitate stating all the phonological rules so far described in the literature, and some only suggested in private discussions. Accordingly, many rules may be stated in a variety of ways within the limitations imposed by the system, and it is the linguist himself who is forced to set whatever restrictions he feels necessary. Finally, we remark that we have defined, with difficulty, all of the phonological rules found in *The Sound Patterns of English* by Chomsky and Halle [4, Ch. 5, "Summary of Rules"] and are currently in the process of verifying the claims made in the text.

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