Mission: SIGMM provides an international interdisciplinary forum for researchers, engineers, and practitioners in all aspects of multimedia computing, communication, storage and application.

1. Awards:

SIGMM gives out three awards each year and these were as follows:

- **SIGMM 2018 Technical Achievement Award** was given to Dr. Yong Rui in recognition of his pioneering contributions to multimedia analysis, retrieval and understanding. Dr. Rui is a Fellow of ACM, IEEE, IAPR and SPIE.

- **SIGMM 2018 Rising Star Award** was given to Dr. Xavier Alameda-Pineda was given in recognition of his contribution to multimodal social behavior understanding.

- **SIGMM 2018 Outstanding PhD Thesis in Multimedia Computing Award** was given to Zhisheng Yan for a thesis entitled "Sustained Mobile Visual Computing: A Human-Centered Perspective" at the University of Buffalo, NY, USA.

2. Significant Papers:

The SIGMM flagship conference, ACM Multimedia 2018, was held in Seoul, Korea and presented the following awards:

**Best Paper Award**

*Beyond Narrative Description: Generating Poetry from Images by Multi-Adversarial Training* 
Bei Liu (Kyoto University), Jianlong Fu (Microsoft Research Asia), Makoto P. Kato (Kyoto University), Masatoshi Yoshikawa (Kyoto University)

**Best Student Paper Award:**

*Understanding Humans in Crowded Scenes: Deep Nested Adversarial Learning and A New Benchmark for Multi-Human Parsing* 
Jian Zhao (National University of Singapore and National University of Defense Technology), Jianshu Li (National University of Singapore), Yu Cheng (National University of Singapore), Terence Sim (National University of Singapore), Shuicheng Yan (National University of Singapore and Qihoo 360 AI Institute), Jiashi Feng (National University of Singapore)

**Best Open Source Software Awards:**

1. **VIVID: Virtual Environment for Visual Deep Learning** 
Kuan-Ting Lai (National Taipei University of Technology), Chia-Chih Lin (National Taiwan University), Chun-Yao Kang (National Taiwan University), Mei-Enn Liao (National Taiwan University), Ming-Syan Chen (National Taiwan University)

2. **A General-Purpose Distributed Programming System using Data-Parallel Streams** 
Tsung-Wei Huang (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Chun-Xun Lin
Best Demo Awards:
1. **AniDance: Real-Time Dance Motion Synthesize to the Song** Taoran Tang (Tsinghua University), Hanyang Mao (Tsinghua University), Jia Jia (Tsinghua University)

2. **Meet AR-bot: Meeting Anywhere, Anytime with Movable Spatial AR Robot** Yoon Jung Park (Media System Lab at Yonsei University), Yoonsik Yang (Media System Lab at Yonsei University), Hyocheol Ro (Media System Lab at Yonsei University), JungHyun Byun (Media System Lab at Yonsei University), Seougho Chae (Media System Lab at Yonsei University), Tack Don Han (Media System Lab at Yonsei University)

The 10th ACM **International Conference on Multimedia Systems** (MMSys 2018), was held in Amherst, MA, USA, June 2019, and presented a range awards including:

- Best paper award to “Cost-driven framework for progressive compression of textured meshes” by Cédric Portaneri, Michael Hemmer, Lukas Birklein and Elmar Schoemer
- Best student paper award to “Content-aware video encoding for cloud gaming” by Mohaned Hegazy, Khaled Diab, Mehdi Saeedi, Boris Ivanovic, Ihab Amer, Yang Liu, Gabor Sines and Mohamed Hefeeda.

The **International Conference in Multimedia Retrieval (ICMR) 2019** was held in Ottawa, Canada, and presented a range of awards including:

- Best student paper Award to W. Gu, X. Gu, J. Gu, B. Li, Z. Xiong, and W. Wang for their paper titled: Adversary Guided Asymmetric Hashing for Cross-Modal Retrieval

In addition to the above, SIGMM presented the 2018 ACM Transactions on Multimedia Computing, Communications and Applications (TOMM) Nicolas D. Georganas Best Paper Award to the paper **Learning from Collective Intelligence: Feature Learning Using Social Images and Tags (TOMM vol.13, Issue 1)** Hanwang Zhang, Xindi Shang, Huanbo Luan, Meng Wang, Tat-Seng Chua.

3. **Significant Programs that Provide a Springboard for Further Technical Efforts**

- SIGMM provided support for student travel through grants, at all of our SIGMM-sponsored conferences.
- A large part of our research area in SIGMM is driven by the availability of large datasets, usually used for training purposes. Recent years have shown a large growth in the emergence of openly available datasets coupled with grand challenge events at our conferences and workshops. Mostly these are driven by our corporate researchers but
this allows all of our researchers the opportunity to carry out their research at scale. This provides great opportunities for our community and is an activity we continue to support.

4. Innovative Programs Providing Service to Some Part of Our Technical Community
   • SIGMM continued our effort to co-locate conferences and other events. This year the ACM MultiMedia Systems (MMSys) conference was co-located with MMVE 2019, the 11th International Workshop on Immersive Mixed and Virtual Environment Systems, NOSSDAV 2019, the 29th ACM SIGMM Workshop on Network and Operating Systems Support for Digital Audio and Video and PV 2019, the 24th Packet Video Workshop. It also hosted the TPC meeting for the ACM Multimedia 2019 conference thus saving further travel costs.

   • SIGMM has launched a Conference Ambassador Program. Following an open call, applicants submit a case for SIGMM to fund them to attend a non-SIGMM sponsored conference which they attend, they identify a paper presented at that conference which they believe would be of most interest to the multimedia community and they invite that presenter to re-present their paper at our SIGMM flagship conference, MULTMEIDA, sponsored by SIGMM. For 2019 SIGMM has approved two such non-SIGMM papers at the October MULTMEDIA Conference.

   • SIGMM has agreed to sponsor a Summer School and a Strategic Workshop in Multimedia in Stellenbosch, South Africa, in 2020, our first sponsored event in that continent.

5. Events or Programs that Broaden Participation
   • Following our study of gender distribution among the organization roles at SIGMM conferences, which was published and presented at our flagship conference, we have appointed a SIGMM Director of Diversity of Inclusion whose role will include coordinating the various diversity support activities at our events. Lunches to support minorities and to promote diversity take place at the MULTIMEDIA and MMSys conferences.

   • The first conference in the new series Multimedia Asia which will take place in Beijing, China, in December 2019, consolidating two existing multimedia-focused conferences in Asia under the sponsorship and governance of SIGMM.

   • The expansion we put in place in our social media communication team has continued to raise our profile on social media. At our major conferences we invite conference attendees to post on social media about papers, demos, talks, etc. that they think are most thought provoking and forward looking at the event, and the most active of these are rewarded with a free registration at a future SIGMM-sponsored conference.

6. Issues for SIGMM in the next 2-3 years
   • Improving the diversity of the community is essential to maintaining our importance and relevance, including diversity in gender, in geographical location, and in many other facets. We believe some consolidation and sharing experiences among SIGs would be of benefit to us all.

   • We wish to reach to other SIGs with whom we could have productive engagement because we see multimedia as a technology enabler as well as an application unto itself. We have tried, but unsuccessfully to date to hold joint panels or workshops at our conferences and our Conference Ambassador program mentioned earlier is a smaller step in that direction.
• The availability of open datasets and grand challenge competitions held at our conferences and workshops is our lifeblood. As mentioned in previous reports, these datasets are often provided from the corporate sector and this is both an opportunity for us to do research on datasets otherwise unavailable to us, as well as being a threat to the balance between corporate influence and independence. This point is being realized by funding agencies.

• In previous annual reports we highlighted the difficulties caused by a significant portion of our conference proceedings not being used as input into CSRankings, a metrics-based ranking of Computer Science institutions primarily in the US. Despite our best efforts we have not succeeded in doing this. Publishing at venues which are considered in CSRankings’ operation is important to much of our community and the experience of other SIGs and support of ACM on making this case would be welcome.