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## SIG/SIC FUNCTIONS

Information processing comprises many fields, and continually evolves new subsectors. Within ACM these receive appropriate attention through Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and Special Interest Committees (SICs) that function as centralizing bodies for those of like technical interests...arranging meetings, issuing bulletins, and acting as both repositories and clearing houses. The SIGs and SICs operate cohesively for the development and advancement of the group purposes, and optimal coordination with other activities. ACM members may, of course, join more than one special interest body. The existence of SIGs and SICs offers the individual member all the advantages of a homogeneous narrower-purpose group within a large cross-field society.

#### STRUCTURE

The Special Interest Group on Computers and the Physically Handicapped (SIGCAPH) offers a single organization within which several specialty areas are differentiated. Many problem areas and topics of interest are unique to a particular disability, while others are common to persons with disabilities of various types. Thus, we have attempted to provide activities in the three areas of blindness, deafness, and motor impairment, while still remaining alert to the possibility of shared areas and efforts. Our organization is an experiment, but one which we believe to be the most useful in the long run.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- (1) To promote the professional interests of computing personnel with physical disabilities.
- (2) To promote the application of computing and information technology toward solutions of disability problems.
- (3) To perform a public education function in support of computing careers for suitably trained blind, deaf or motor impaired persons.

# ACTIVITIES, SERVICES & OPPORTUNITIES

- To maintain a central information source regarding resource persons and programs with respect to computing careers for persons with physical handicaps.
- (2) To explore the most suitable format for a Newsletter for the dissemination of information of interest to members.
- (3) To assist both disabled and non-disabled persons in benefiting from the experiences of others who have successfully coped with employment problems of the handicapped in computing.
- (4) To sponsor technical symposia, where appropriate, at national meetings where the application of computing techniques to disability problems appears to offer promise.
- (5) To encourage the formation of local and regional units, which may address themselves specifically to one disability, or to a spectrum of various disabilities.

### TOPICS OF INTEREST

Careers in computing for persons with disabilities (blindness, deafness, and motor impairment).

Selection, training, placement and on-the-job support for effective performance for persons with disabilities in the various computer fields.

The use of computers and computer technology in alleviating disability-related problems of information and control.

Sensory aids design, Braille systems and devices, research on visible speech and reading machines.

Complete form and return to:	FEE SCHEDULE
SIGCAPH c/o ACM	(Please circle applicable figure)
1133 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036	<u>either</u> Braille <u>or inkprint edition</u> both editions of Newsletter of Newsletter
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