

Candidate Biographies

Peter A. Barzdines (candidate for President)

Peter Barzdines has been a GBC/ACM volunteer for over 15 years. Joining the chapter after returning to Boston in 1987, he became a Newsletter Committee member in the late 80's and wrote reviews of chapter monthly meetings for publication in the Real Times. In the early 90's, Peter became Professional Development Seminar Committee Chairman and a member of the Executive Board. He has added revenues to the seminar budgeting process. Starting as a committee of one, he has built a PDS Committee of many chapter volunteers working together to produce seminars.

Peter has worked as an employee or consultant on a variety of software related jobs at McDonnell Douglas, NCR, IBM, John Hancock, and Comverse. He is currently employed as a software developer at Data2Logistics in Randolph, MA. He has earned an S.B from Harvard University and an M.B.A. from the University of the Witwatersrand.

Position Statement: If elected President, I will work to improve the ability of our Chapter to serve our members, concentrating on these Chapter objectives:

- To launch our new seminars and make them successful.
- To update our IT infrastructure.
- To improve our communications.
- To maintain an environment in which all of us can work together to achieve our Chapter objectives.

Stephen Evanchik (candidate for President)

Stephen Evanchik received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in Computer Science from Clarkson University in 2002 and 2004. While at Clarkson, Stephen was the President of the student ACM chapter where he organized social and job recruiting events. Recognizing the potential of open source software in academia, Stephen co-founded and later became director of an open source software institute which has become a central part of Computer Science education at the university.

Stephen is currently employed by the IBM Corporation in Cambridge where he works on advanced Internet technologies. Prior to working for IBM, he was a consultant specializing in network management and planning in higher education. Stephen continues to be an active contributor to open source software; making contributions to the Linux kernel, Xen hypervisor, OpenEmbedded and other projects.

Position Statement: As President, I will have a forward looking agenda that:

- Encourages new ideas and fresh thinking
- Continues to redevelop the chapter's services
- Preserves and builds on the heritage of the chapter
- Expands membership to younger professionals
- Encourages member involvement with local communities

Working together, we can position the chapter as a model for others to emulate while preserving its history and integrity. I believe by achieving these goals, we will set the GBC/ACM on a course of future success.

Candidate Biographies (cont)

Sam Cardman (candidate for Vice President)

Sam Cardman is a long time GBC/ACM Executive Board member and a former GBC/ACM President. He received a BA in mathematics and MSc in Computer Science, both from The Ohio State University, back while computers were still steam-powered. He has been doing software at the Mitre Corp in Bedford, MA, for more than twenty years, and before that, he did network software at CompuServe. He has been active in GBC/ACM for about twenty years.

Position Statement: There have been times when competent, energetic, dedicated people working hard for the benefit of the Chapter have encountered difficulties caused by break-downs in communication. This has sometimes happened even when the people recognized it was happening. These communication problems are a matter of great concern to me. In addition to the traditional duties of a GBC/ACM Vice President, I will be attempting to facilitate more effective communication within the Chapter.

Edward Freedman (candidate for Vice President)

Edward Freedman has been a member of ACM and a number of ACM SIGs since 1984 and has been an active member of GBC/ACM for many years. He is a member of the IEEE Computer Society and Social Implications of Technology Society, among others. Edward holds degrees in Physics, Computer Science, and Bioinformatics.

He has worked at university research labs, government agencies (NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and White Sands Missile Range), and private industry (Digital Equipment and Compaq). At Digital and Compaq, he was a principal software engineer working on tools for software development, advanced development in parallel algorithms and system architecture, architecture verification tools for 64-bit Alpha processors, and consulted on the design and development of Alpha products with partner companies.

Position statement: My involvement with the GBC/ACM began with attending SIGPLAN talks in Cambridge in the mid-1980's, and soon expanded to include GBC/ACM monthly meetings and Saturday PDS seminars. I've always valued the work that the GBC has done and began volunteering by assisting with PDS support. I helped with publicity on the Spring 2002 PDS series and continued to grow in that role, becoming PDS Publicity Coordinator.

In recent years the GBC/ACM has been losing money at an alarming rate. This past year I've been heavily involved in reengineering the way the chapter organizes and runs not only the PDS seminars, but also publishes the website, communicates with members, and deals with other infrastructure issues.

This past January, I became Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee. An important goal of that committee is to create a healthy financial model for GBC/ACM. We want to run popular and profitable PDS events, improve the website, grow our membership, and obtain a pool of interested and motivated volunteers. We want the GBC/ACM to be a dynamic and vibrant organization that is also fiscally sound. My long range goal is to expand the educational outreach of the chapter and find more ways to support our membership.

James J. Byleckie (candidate for reelection as Secretary)

Dr. James J. Byleckie is the current GBC/ACM Secretary.

Yona Carmichael (candidate for reelection as Treasurer)

Yona Carmichael is the current GBC/ACM Treasurer. During her 2 years in office, she has analyzed the budgets and expenditures of the organization, and implemented many cost-saving measures to allow the chapter to be more fiscally responsible. She is also serving as the volunteer Treasurer of several other organizations with which she is involved.

GBC/ACM June Meeting

Joint Meeting with the IEEE Computer and Communications Societies

Topic: The Evolving Security Threat Landscape

Speaker: Eric Hanselman - Network Protection Architect, Internet Security Systems

Date: Thursday, June 8, 2006 7 -9 PM

Location: Verizon

Details: <http://www.gbcaacm.org/website/semInfo.php?id=1112>

Internet and network security threats evolve rapidly in both their nature and techniques. The attacker community and their motivations are also evolving, driving the adoption of new and different tactics. Media hype and user paranoia result in a significant lack of understanding about what these threats really mean and how they can be mitigated. As more and more of our lives are linked to network connectivity, it's important to understand the types of risks and be able to weigh them intelligently. Many tools are available to protect network connected resources, but their strengths and weaknesses are often not well understood. New threats, such as targeted attacks are already changing the way modern defenses need to be deployed. This talk will explore today's realities and identify emerging trends in network security. Details of the attacker community will be discussed. Attack techniques will be presented with technical explanations. Attention will be given to practical solutions to reduce attack surfaces. The pros and cons of different tools will be examined, as will best practices for their implementation. Both personal and professional topics in information security will be discussed. Biography:

Eric Hanselman is network protection architect for Internet Security Systems, Inc. (ISS), a public company. With over twenty years of communications security experience, he is responsible for understanding and translating the network security problem space for both ISS product strategy and designed security solutions. Prior to joining Internet Security Systems, Mr. Hanselman worked with technology leaders including Nortel/Bay Networks and NEC where he was involved in the introduction of many new communications technologies ranging from moving SNA systems onto IP-based networks to roll-outs for IPv6. He holds a patent in facsimile systems design and has spoken extensively on communications security technology and its applications.

Directions: Verizon Labs, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham. To get to Verizon Labs, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, take Exit 27B (Winter Street) on I-95/128. Heading west, away from I-95/128, stay all the way to the right through two traffic lights, Verizon Labs is ~1/4 mile ahead. After the 2nd light, turn left onto Sylvan Road towards the Verizon Campus. After entering the Verizon Campus, take the second right into the courtyard parking lot (go under the pedestrian overpass between buildings and take a left for parking). Take the diagonal walkway across the grass to enter building #1 in the N.E corner of the courtyard, at the end of the walkway. The talk will be held in either Auditorium A or B, which are side-by side in building #1. Entering building #1 from the courtyard entrance, go past the guard's desk on the right, and past the cafeteria entrance on the left, then turn left down a corridor behind the cafeteria. Both Auditorium A and B will be on the right.

Request for Email Address

Sometime in the future, we will be switching from a hard to soft copy of the Real Times. In order to send you notification of the Newsletter posting, we need your email address. We are asking the members to send their email address to the following: membership@gbcaacm.org

Please include your first and last name, membership identification number (found on the address label) and if you would like to receive email copy/notification of the Real Times once it goes into soft copy. The GBC/ACM will not disclose your email address outside the chapter without your permission. Please check the privacy policy at: <http://www.gbcaacm.org/website/privacy.php>

Slate of Candidates for GBC/ACM Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Officers

At the Monthly Meeting on April 21, 2006, the following were nominated for officers of the GBC/ACM for Fiscal Year 2007:

For President: **Peter A. Barzdines** (current Executive Board member)
Stephen Evanchik (current Strategic Planning Committee and IS Committ member)

For Vice President: **Sam Cardman** (current Executive Board member)
Edward Freedman (current Strategic Planning Committee Chair)

For Secretary: **James J. Byleckie** (current Secretary)

For Treasurer: **Yona Carmichael** (current Treasurer)

The GBC/ACM elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, 15-Jun-2006 (to be held at the IBM Innovation Center at 404 Wyman Street, in Waltham, MA). The business part of the monthly meeting will start promptly at 6:30pm. The meeting should consist of 3 parts: reports from officers, report of the strategic planning committee, and election.

Candidate biographies and position statements appear on pages 4-5. You can also find out more at:
<http://www.gbcaacm.org/election2006.pdf>

GBC/ACM June General Meeting

Elections To Be Held at this Meeting

Topic: Online Health Communities

Speaker: Lisa Neal

Date: Thursday, June 15, 2006 6:30 -9 P

Location: IBM Innovation Center

Details: <http://www.gbcaacm.org/website/semInfo.php?id=1111>

Note: Meeting will start 30 minutes earlier than usual to allow time for the Officers Report, the Strategic Planning Committee Report and Elections.

Online health communities provide a means for patients and their families to learn about an illness, seek and offer support, and connect with others in similar circumstances. They are supported by a variety of technologies and are hosted by patients, advocacy groups, medical organizations, and corporations. Online health communities raise difficult design challenges because of the wide variability of members' expertise and needs. The importance of online health communities is evidenced by the impact they have on the quality of life and health literacy of their members and by their popularity, which is likely to increase due to changes in the health care system coupled with increased infiltration and use of the Internet. This talk will explore current trends in online health communities and the significant issues in designing and evaluating systems that help members interact with other participants and medical experts in meaningful ways.

Lisa Neal is an Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor of Public Health and Family Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine, where she teaches about new technologies for health communication. She is Editor-in-Chief of eLearn Magazine and a consultant who specializes in the creative use of collaborative technologies for learning. Lisa holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Harvard University. Lisa's web site is at www.lisaneal.com.

Directions: The IBM Innovation Center is located at 404 Wyman Street, Waltham. There is free parking in the garage at the north end of the building. To reach the meeting room, walk out the front of the garage and around to your right to the front door of the building. Directions to the room will be available when you sign in at the front desk.

Real Times Editor

Rochelle Goren, editor@gbcacm.org

GBC/ACM Officers (2005 - 2006)

President

Peter Carmichael, president@gbcacm.org

Vice President

Jay Conne, vicepresident@gbcacm.org

Secretary

James Byleckie, secretary@gbcacm.org

Treasurer

Yona Carmichael, treasurer@gbcacm.org

Past President

Stephanie Collins, pastpresident@gbcacm.org

Committee Chairs

Program Committee

Peter Mager, programchair@gbcacm.org

Strategic Planning Committee

Ed Freedman, planning@gbcacm.org

Webmaster (<http://www.gbcacm.org>)

Ed Geraghty, webmaster@gbcacm.org

Membership Chair: membership@gbcacm.org

Volunteer Coordinator: volunteer@gbcacm.org

Suggestions Chair: suggestions@gbcacm.org

Donations: donations@gbcacm.org

Local Special Interest Group Chairs

GB/SIGCHI

Gabriel Spitz, gbsigchi@gbcacm.org

SIGGRAPH/Boston

Samuel Murphy, siggraph@gbcacm.org

GB/WEB TECH

Dan Jacobs, (781) 273-5825, webtech@gbcacm.org

Boston Chapter of the IEEE Computer Society

David Rosenberg, Sam Cardman, Ed Lowry, Peter Mager, ieee@gbcacm.org

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Timely notices of events, meetings, and other activities of interest to the Chapter's Membership should be submitted by the 10th of the month Before the intended issue and emailed to:

editor@gbcacm.org

Please check the privacy policy at:

<http://www.gbcacm.org/website/privacy.php>

Annual subscription cost is included in the Chapter Membership dues of \$10.00. See top line on mailing label for membership expiration date. Library subscriptions are free. Please send orders for copies to the Chapter mailing address above.

May/June Meetings

Boston SPIN and Software Quality Group of New England (SQGNE) Joint Meeting

Topic: Offshore Outsourcing Myths, Facts, and Opinions

Speakers: Panel Discussion

Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2006 6 PM - Business followed by meeting at 7:10 PM

Location: MITRE Corporation, S Building, Bedford, MA

Details: <http://www.boston-spin.org> - http://www.sqadvice.com/SQGNE_Calendar.htm

Please check sites for further details.

May Meetings

Data Management Association International (DAMA)- Boston Chapter

Topic: Increasing the Business Value of Your Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence Investments

Speaker: Richard Sherman, Athena IT Solutions

Date: Thursday, May 4, 2006 3-5 PM

Location: Bank of America, Waltham, MA

Details: <http://www.geocities.com/BostonDAMA>
No fee -but register the day before by 9 PM

Data Management Association International (DAMA) - Boston Chapter

Topic: The Data Modeling Scorecard

Speaker: Steve Hoberman, Athena IT Solutions

Date: Friday, June 9, 2006 9 AM - 12 PM

Location: Bank of America, Mezzanine Conference Room 4, Waltham, MA

Details:
<http://www.geocities.com/BostonDAMA/jun2006.html>
No fee -but register the day before by 9 PM

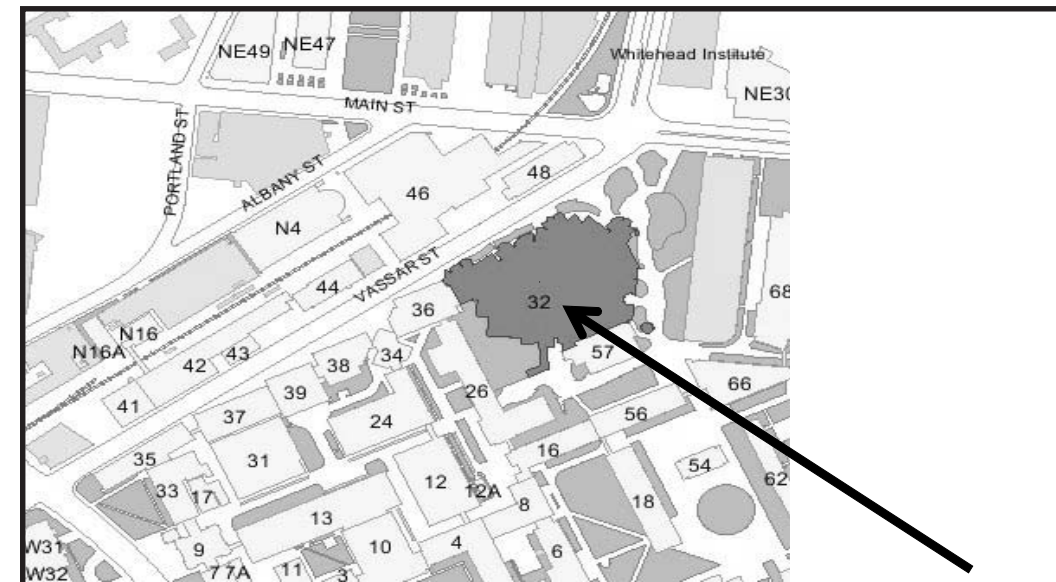
State of GBC/ACM Seminar Series

We are working on improving our PDS Seminars, and getting better attendance. We are in a state of flux right now...

Expect more information soon. In the meantime, please come to our exciting program of free evening seminars.

GBC/ACM May General Meeting - continued from page 1

For a map: <http://whereis.mit.edu/bin/map?selection=32&Buildings=go>



Are you a current member of GBC/ACM?*



If not, join! The \$10 annual membership fee offers many opportunities for development through regular and engaging interaction with local contemporaries, in addition to access to our popular PDS seminars. Paying for multiple years can save effort for you and us. Please mail in your membership form today!

Name: _____

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Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please make checks payable to GBC/ACM and mail to:
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Lexington, MA 02420

(*Check your address label for expiration date.)

Date	Page	Sponsor	Location
May 4	2	DAMA	Bank of America, Waltham, MA
May 9	1	GBC/ACM May General Meeting	MIT Kiva Room - Bldg 32 Cambridge, MA
May 16	2	Boston SPIN & SQGNE	MITRE, S Building Bedford, MA
June 8	3	GBC/ACM June Meeting	Verizon Labs, Waltham, MA
June 9	2	DAMA	Bank of America, Waltham, MA
June 15	6	GBC/ACM June Meeting (with Elections)	IBM Innovation Center Waltham, MA

If the top line of your mailing label below reads ****EXPIRED****, please renew your membership (for just \$10/yr). For that \$10 you get a copy of this newsletter/local event calendar mailed to any address you choose plus the right to attend PDS seminars at the member rate. Please consider renewing for more than one year at time. Your support helps make possible the wide array of GBC/ACM activities.

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May 2006

GBC/ACM May 2006 Meeting - Cosponsored by IEEE Computer Society & IEEE Robotics Society

Self-organizing Robots

Speaker: Daniela Rus, MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab
Date/Time: Tuesday, May 9, 2006, 6-8 PM
Location: MIT Room 32-G449, Kiva Room
 Stata Center, MIT Building 32, 4th floor, Cambridge, MA

We wish to create versatile robots by using self-reconfiguration: hundreds of small modules autonomously organize and reorganize as geometric structures to best fit the terrain on which the robot has to move, the shape of the object the robot has to manipulate, or the sensing needs for the given task. Self-reconfiguration allows large collections of small robots to actively organize as the most optimal geometric structure to perform useful coordinated work. A self-reconfiguring robot consists of a set of identical modules that can dynamically and autonomously reconfigure in a variety of shapes, to best fit the terrain, environment, and task. Self-reconfiguration leads to versatile robots that can support multiple modalities of locomotion and manipulation. Self-reconfiguring robots constitute large scale distributed systems. Because the modules change their location continuously they also constitute ad-hoc networks. This talk will discuss the challenges of creating self-reconfiguring robots, ranging from designing hardware capable of self-reconfiguration to developing distributed controllers and planners for such systems that are scalable, adaptive, and support real-time behavior.

Daniela Rus is an associate professor in the EECS Department at MIT. She is the co-director of the CSAIL Center for Robotics. Previously, she was a professor in the computer science department at Dartmouth College. She holds a PhD degree in computer science from Cornell University. Her research interests include distributed robotics, mobile computing, and self-organization. She was the recipient of an NSF Career award. She is a Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Fellow and a class of 2002 MacArthur Fellow.

Directions: Kiva (MIT Room 32-G449) is on the 4th floor of the Stata Center, MIT Building 32, on the corner of Vassar St. and Main St. Take any of the 3 elevators on the Gates Tower side of the building and turn toward your right when exiting the elevator. Also, see map on page 7.

Please check for any last-minute changes to meeting arrangements by visiting the GBC/ACM website <<http://www.gbcacm.org>> before the meeting.