Introduction

Welcome to the inaugural issue of ACM *ToMPECS*! This new ACM Transactions journal represents a “labor of love” that has been many years in the making. We are very proud to have served as the founding co-EiCs of this new journal, and hope that it soon becomes the leading journal for modeling and performance evaluation of computing and communication systems.

Many people helped make this journal possible. The early visionaries advocating for the journal were Albert Greenberg and Leana Golubchik, with ardent support from Mark Squillante, John Lui, and many others. The ACM Publications Board helped us crystallize the journal; our special thanks go to Jack Davidson, Joe Konstan, and Bernard Rous for their detailed and constructive feedback throughout the ACM journal approval process. We are grateful to Laura Lander from ACM; she has chaperoned two “rookie” co-EiCs through the vagaries of ManuscriptCentral configuration, journal publicity, and the ACM production process. The technical support from the ManuscriptCentral team, most notably Bill Watkins, has been first-rate. Along the way, ACM *ToPLAS* unwittingly provided the style template for our initial ACM *ToMPECS* website, and Haritini Kanthou at ACM migrated our web presence into the new format supported within the ACM Digital Library. We believe we are ready for prime time now, but this would not have been possible without all of the foregoing efforts on behalf of ACM *ToMPECS*.

In terms of content, this journal aims to provide archival publication for some of the best works in computer systems performance evaluation and modeling. For this, we owe a big debt of thanks to our research communities for their support. High on this list are our Associate Editors, who believed in the journal and have given their time and effort to steward high-quality articles through to publication. The names and affiliations of our initial editorial board appear on the journal masthead page. We also thank the authors, who have sent us some of their best work and had the patience to endure our rigorous review process as well as our need to build a pipeline for print publication. Please keep the good work coming, and we will do our best to make sure it appears here! Last but not least, we thank the many external referees who have reviewed papers for ACM *ToMPECS*. We will regularly provide their names in our final quarterly issue each calendar year.

The articles that appear in this issue are the very first four that were accepted. These articles showcase the breadth and depth of research in modeling and performance evaluation, with an assortment of techniques being applied in a variety of application domains. We are as proud of these articles as are the authors themselves. Future issues of the journal will also offer such a rich mix of content for your reading pleasure.

Thank you for perusing our very first issue. We hope that you like the variety, novelty, and quality of what you see in ACM *ToMPECS*. We are always open to your feedback, as we continue to grow and improve the journal over time.

Sincerely yours

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Editors in Chief