Editorial: A Message from the Outgoing Editors-in-Chief

We have had the pleasure of serving as the editors-in-chief of *ACM Transactions on Accessible Computing (TACCESS)* for the past 6 years. To ensure the vitality of the journal, *TACCESS* has established a limit of two 3-year terms for its editors-in-chief, to foster a pipeline of opportunities for engagement among the next generation of computing accessibility researchers. As we approach the end of our editorship, we chose to mark this milestone by reflecting on the history and progress of *TACCESS* and to thank those who have contributed to its success.

When our inaugural editors-in-chief, Vicki L. Hanson and Andrew Sears, founded *TACCESS* in 2007, they sought to fill an important need in the field of accessible computing, which had matured to the point where there was demand for an ACM venue for publishing high-quality, journal-length research articles. By building support for the creation of *TACCESS*, they established a venue to support the publication and career progress of young researchers, a home for research conveying a longer arc than possible in a conference-length paper, and a trusted venue for dissemination by an even more diverse community of researchers, including those who may not be able to travel easily to academic conferences.

During our two terms as editors-in-chief, we have been excited to oversee significant growth of the journal, with increasing submissions and publication bandwidth. *TACCESS* has become the premier place of publication for long-form archival articles in the field of accessible computing, and we have been consistently impressed with the quality of work submitted to the journal. In recognition of the journal's maturity and reputation, we have been pleased to see several major research indices choose to include *TACCESS* over the past several years.

A strength of *TACCESS* has long been its relationship with the vibrant research community surrounding the *ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS)*. The original editors-in-chief had established a tradition, which we have continued, of inviting authors of top papers from the *ASSETS* conference to produce extended versions of their work for consideration (undergoing full review) for an annual *TACCESS* special issue. To further expand the *TACCESS* community, we have launched several additional special issues on emerging topics within the field of computing accessibility, including Speech and Language Processing for Assistive Technology, Fabrication Technologies and Do-It-Yourself Accessibility, and an upcoming issue on Technology to Support Independent Orientation and Mobility of People with Visual Impairments. We give special thanks to the guest editors who have contributed to all of these special issues.

To promote additional engagement with the computing accessibility research community, we launched a new relationship with the *ASSETS* conference, by which authors of *TACCESS* papers could present their work at this conference. Over the past 5 years, the number of *TACCESS* papers presented at the *ASSETS* conference has increased dramatically, providing greater exposure for these authors' work and promoting cross-pollination between the *ASSETS* and *TACCESS* communities. Given the success of this initial conference relationship, during the past year, we launched a new relationship with the *International Web for All (W4A)* conference; authors of accepted *TACCESS* articles now have the option of presenting their work at either *W4A* or *ASSETS*.

None of this progress would have been possible without the support of many individuals and organizations. As our two terms of service come to an end, we wanted to thank ACM, the ACM

Publications Board, the ACM Publications Staff, and the ACM SIGACCESS Special Interest Group on Accessible Computing for their continuing support of the journal. We thank our subscribers and readers for their interest in the journal, and we also thank the entire *TACCESS* community of authors, reviewers, associate editors, and editorial board members (both current and past members) for their volunteer contributions of time and expertise to the journal.

The motivation that unites our research community in computing accessibility is the goal of creating a better future, one in which mainstream technology is accessible to all users, in which new accessibility technologies benefit people with disabilities, and in which people with disabilities fully participate in computing as a science and a profession. As *TACCESS* begins its next chapter, we are excited to see how the journal will help us all create this future.

—Matt Huenerfauth and Kathleen F. McCoy

Editors-in-Chief