

Mission Statement: The mission of the Computing Research Association (CRA) is to catalyze computing research by joining with industry, government, and academia. CRA executes this mission by leading the computing research community; informing policymakers and the public; and championing a diverse, welcoming, equitable, and socially responsible computing research community.

Strategic Themes

Objectives

Strategic Initiatives

Priority Outcomes

CRA will continue to excel as a:

- Source of content and resources that inform the field
- Cultivator of novel approaches to current and future opportunities for computing research
- Respected voice of the computing research community to government and other policy makers
- Champion for a diverse, welcoming, and equitable computing research community

While establishing itself as a:

- Leader in promoting socially responsible computing research; and
- Catalyst for academic, government and industry computing research organizations to enhance the field

Theme A.
Prioritize and focus CRA effort

- A1. Establish a focus on socially responsible computing
- A2. Establish a transparent framework for assessment and selection of activities that align to the mission and strategy
- A3. Create mechanisms for proposing, identifying, selecting, and prioritizing areas for CRA effort

- A1a. In collaboration with the computing research community, define tenets and practices for socially responsible computing
- A2a. Engage the board in defining criteria for selection of activities to pursue
- A2b. Develop governance and decision-making framework and cycle for selection of activities
- A3a. Regularly inventory, assess, and evaluate CRA activity
- A3b. Develop a process for regular environmental scanning
- A3c. Implement inclusive processes for members to propose topics and projects for consideration
- A3d. Regularly consider alignment of committees, staff, and budget with prioritized projects

Theme B.
Leverage the capacity of the CRA network

- B1. Increase engagement of CRA member organizations and computing researchers
- B2. Influence policy decisions that affect the computing research community

- B1a. Expand participation to include academic programs within community colleges, historically black colleges and universities, and other pipeline institutions
- B1b. Broaden involvement of computing researchers from member organizations, beyond the member contacts
- B2a. Proactively influence government policy and procedures that affect the computing research community, in addition to responding to emerging issues
- B2b. Influence systemic practices in industry and academia that affect the computing research community

Theme C.
Inform the field of emerging best practices

- C1. Ensure rigorous and comprehensive methods for CRA research
- C2. Enhance understanding of the positive impact of computing research on society

- C1a. Create and apply a common framework to identify, gather, curate, and analyze data on best practices and other topics of interest to the field
- C2a. Continually gather and communicate examples of the positive impact of computing research on society

Theme D.
Expand partnerships and connections with and within the computing research community

- D1. Enhance CRA's benefit to industry computing research organizations
- D2. Increase impactful partnerships with other academic disciplines
- D3. Enhance CRA's benefit to government laboratory organizations

- D1a. Meaningfully engage industries that conduct computing research (utilizing a CRA-I Committee)
- D2a. Create multi-disciplinary partnerships to address challenges and opportunities for impact
- D3a. Create mutually beneficial partnerships of CRA and government lab organizations to address challenges and opportunities for impact
- D3b. Expand membership opportunities for those working in government labs

Theme E.
Strengthen pathways and diversify the field of computing researchers

- E1. Broaden awareness of pathways into computing research
- E2. Broaden the diversity of thought and demographics in computing research
- E3. Strengthen preparation for computing researchers

- E1a. With sister organizations, create resources that articulate the broad range of pathways into computing research
- E1b. Support pathways between industry experience and academic computing research programs
- E2a. Enhance awareness of computing research opportunities to a broader student population
- E2b. Utilize best practices to create guidance for ensuring a supportive community for diverse students in computing research
- E2c. Create guidance for university graduate admission programs that outline student readiness requirements that consider equity in experiences
- E3a. Expand CRA programming to enhance preparation experiences for computing research students

Theme F.
Increase awareness of CRA value

- F1. Enhance utilization of CRA content, knowledge, and resources
- F2. Broaden and sustain sources of financial support

- F1a. Institutionalize systemic, continuous, and targeted communications
- F1b. Organize CRA resources in integrated, easily accessible systems
- F2a. Enhance value proposition to current and potential member organizations
- F2b. Seek additional funding sources aligned with the CRA mission