Leila De Floriani

Professor
University of Maryland,
College Park, USA

2020 IEEE Computer
Society President

IEEE Fellow

deflo@umd.edu

Leila De Floriani

Candidate for IEEE Division VIII (Computer) Delegate-Elect/ Director-Elect

BIOGRAPHY

Leila De Floriani is a full professor at the University of Maryland at College Park. Previously she was a full professor at the University of Genova, Italy, since 1991, and held positions at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, University of Nebraska, and the Italian National Research Council. She has authored over 300 peer-reviewed publications in data visualization, spatial data modeling and analysis, and computer graphics. She was the 2020 IEEE Computer Society President, and the Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics. She is an editor of several top journals in her field, and served on the committees of over 150 international conferences, contributing to several of them in a leadership capacity. She is a Fellow of IEEE, Eurographics, the International Association for Pattern Recognition, an inducted member of the IEEE Visualization Academy, an IEEE Computer Society Golden Core member, an IEEE-HKN member, and a Solid Modeling Association Pioneer.

IEEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Some of my major accomplishments as *2020 IEEE Computer Society President* have been: 1) the creation of a new permanent CS committee on Diversity and Inclusion (D&I), and a dedicated fund to support it; 2) new D&I activities, from an interview series of prominent female scientists and professionals, to best practices for Society activities and against the use of racist, biased, and culturally insensitive language in Society products; 3) a restructuring of the Society governance to enhance bottom-up participation of volunteer leaders in decision-making; 4) an expansion of the open access publication portfolio; 5) a reinvigorated effort and focus on open science and reproducibility; 6) a successful temporary transition to virtual conferences; 7) a multilingual translation program for the CS website to fully engage non-English-speaking members; 8) a novel recognition program to honor Society members; 9) a new conference series, IEEE InTech Forum, targeted at industry. Despite the ongoing difficult worldwide economic situation, in 2020 the CS generated a high budget surplus, nearly doubling its reserves.

My service as *Editor-in-Chief* of the *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, led to a significant higher standing of the journal among top peer reviewed publications, highly increasing its impact factor and the number of submissions.

Please visit https://defloriani-2022-ieee-division-viii-director-elect-candidate.umiacs.io/ for more information.

POSITION STATEMENT

IEEE is a global leader in science, engineering, and technology with a mission to serve both researchers and practitioners. In the post-Covid era, I believe that we need to respond to new challenges, by making them opportunities for growth:

- Enhance inclusiveness by promoting membership diversity through outreach activities and involvement of underrepresented groups as volunteers in publications, conferences, and governance.
- Define new strategies for engaging the IEEE community, through personalized benefits, specifically focusing on younger generations.
- Lead in open science and open access, changing the business model for journal and conference publications and expanding services offered.
- Develop sustainable financial models for hybrid conferences to provide unprecedented opportunities for geographic expansion in attendance and increasing gender diversity.
- Engage on a worldwide basis researchers and practitioners in emerging areas of science, engineering and technology.

I believe I am uniquely positioned to contribute effectively to the continued growth of the IEEE. If elected, I will draw on my professional background and experience as 2020 Computer Society President to address these challenges.