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BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Yolanda Gil received her bachelor's degree ("Licenciatura") from the Polytechnic University of Madrid in Spain in 1985, and her Ph.D. in Computer Science from Carnegie Mellon University in 1992. She then joined the University of Southern California and is currently a Fellow and Senior Director for Artificial Intelligence and Data Science Strategy at the Information Sciences Institute, Director of AI and Data Science Initiatives at the Viterbi School of Engineering, and Research Professor in Computer Science and in Spatial Sciences. She is Director of Data Science programs with over 1,000 students and has created 10 joint interdisciplinary degrees across USC schools.

Her AI research focuses on knowledge-rich frameworks for interactive intelligent systems, with applications in scientific, military, and education contexts. She collaborates with scientists in many domains on semantic workflows and knowledge capture, provenance and trust, task-centered collaboration, reproducibility, and automated discovery. She has published over 250 peer-reviewed articles and has received best paper conference awards and journal recognitions for interdisciplinary research in AI for climate, neuroscience, and health.

Dr. Gil's leadership positions include serving as the 24th president of AAAI, as well as serving on editorial boards of journals on AI, cognitive science, data science, human computation, web semantics, and AI ethics. She was program chair of AAAI, ISWC, and IUI and track chair of WWW and ICML. She established the Symposium on Educational Advances in AI (EAAI), now co-located annually with AAAI. She served on the Advisory Committee of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Directorate for Computing and Information Science and Engineering (CISE). She was elected to NSF OAC/GEO EarthCube's Leadership Council and Chair of its Technology

and Architecture Committee. She has served on advisory boards of large multi-institutional projects in the US and Europe.

Dr. Gil initiated and led the W3C Provenance Group that resulted in a widely-used industry standard that provides foundations for trust on the Web.

She is a Fellow of ACM, AAAI, IEEE, the Cognitive Science Society, and AAAS. In 2022, she became the first computer scientist to receive the M. Lee Allison Award for Outstanding Contributions to Geoinformatics and Data Science from the Geological Society of America (GSA).

STATEMENT

ACM plays a critical role in inspiring students, researchers, educators, and professionals across the broad spectrum of computing. My own experience with ACM began when I joined as an undergraduate student in Spain and became connected to a world-wide community. My great belief in its importance led me to deeply engage over the years – as a conference chair, reviewer, author, and to serve on many committees. In terms of leadership, I was elected Chair of the ACM Special Interest Group in Artificial Intelligence (SIGAI) for two terms, from 2010 to 2016, and served a third term as Past Chair. I worked extensively with ACM to oversee AAMAS, HRI, and other conferences, and to establish the governance and elections for IUI and K-CAP. I helped to launch a new magazine (AI Matters) that continues today. During those years I also was a member of the ACM SIG Governing Board, which gave me an even deeper appreciation of the wide variety of ACM strategic initiatives across disciplines, across countries, and across life stages and career paths.

As ACM President, I will build on my experience as AAAI President-Elect, President, and Past-President (in total serving in the leadership from 2016 to 2022). During those years we quickly turned our main conference hybrid in the month when the pandemic was rising, and we transitioned to a new publications and management model. As AAAI President, I established a $1M award for AI for the Benefit of Humanity, created a recurring and significant budget to promote equity and inclusivity, and set up a new committee on US Initiatives and Policy to coordinate with ACM's activities in this area.

ACM is uniquely positioned to provide what I believe is a much-needed integrated view of computing in matters of technology ethics and policy. A great example is ACM's principles for transparency and accountability that should govern any algorithm. This is of particular interest to me, as I have been an active participant in initiatives around science policy for over a decade, attending policy forums and congressional visit days. In 2019, I co-chaired the CRA/AAAI 20-Year Artificial Intelligence Research Roadmap for the US with key strategic recommendations based on extensive academic and industry engagement. As part of this effort, I personally reached out to colleagues in many countries to learn about their national AI initiatives that were emerging at that time. Today I am a member of the ACM US Technology Policy Committee, where I see the importance of ACM in bringing diverse computing perspectives for AI, privacy, copyright laws, net neutrality, election security, and many other topics.

Computing leads to the most unpredictable, transformative, and far-reaching technologies in human history. Our success depends on marshalling the best talent to the broad diversity of computing career paths in all economic sectors and societal endeavors. I will lead ACM and the computing community to increase our impact in the world.