ACP Executive Committee: Election Statement

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I am the founder and leader of the ASTRA group on CP at Uppsala University in Sweden (since 1998) and of SweConsNet, the *Network of Sweden-based researchers and practitioners of CP* (since 2002). I have served on many programme committees for CP and AI events, am a founder of the SymCon workshop series (in 2001), and have been a programme chair of the SymCon'01, SymCon'02, LSCS'08 (local search), ModRef'08 (modelling and reformulation), and SymCon'10 workshops at CP conferences.

I believe that the next few years will be pivotal for CP, so that a strong ACP is important. The currently elected members of the ACP Executive Committee have excellent ideas on the education and involvement of students and industry, the visibility of CP compared to other constraint solving technologies, the hybridisation of CP with these technologies, the defragmentation of the CP tool area, etc.

A point perhaps not yet directly mentioned by them is my concern for the lack of knowledge about CP among our fellow computer scientists who have constraint problems to solve in their research, in areas such as machine learning and data mining, computer-aided verification, software synthesis, computational biology, computational finance, computational linguistics, and so on. Toward a better understanding and increased usage of CP by other computer scientists, I advocate the following measures:

- Promote the organisation of outreach meetings with experts of other CS areas.

- Promote the design of (on-line) educational material explaining *modern* CP to CS experts.

- Promote (possibly together with at least the SAT/SMT and MIP communities) the design of a showcase of significant benchmarks where models by CP experts outperform models by SAT/SMT and MIP experts, or where CP experts challenge SAT/SMT and MIP experts to beat their CP models (and vice-versa).

- Promote efforts to limit the impact of the absence of a standard interface to CP solvers, and to increase the sustainability of CP solver development.

I have already taken some steps in these directions:

- **Education:**

  - Organiser of the ACP Summer School on Hybrid Methods for CP in 2011
  - Teacher of a yearly course and many guest lectures on CP at my university, since 2003

- **Outreach Activities:**

  - Guest Editor of the special issue CP for Air Traffic Management of the *Knowledge Engineering Review*, including a co-authored survey, in September 2012
  - Programme Chair and Local Chair of CP meets Computer-Aided Verification, in June 2012
  - Invited CP representative in the Dagstuhl seminars CP meets Machine Learning and Data Mining (in 2011) and Software Synthesis (in 2012)
  - Programme Chair of the workshop CP for Air Traffic Management, in 2008