FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACM SIGAda Award for Ada Community Contributions
Named for Late Ada Luminary Robert Dewar
NYU Professor Emeritus / AdaCore founder played key role in Ada language design and
implementation

NEW YORK, July 19, 2016 - ACM's Special Interest Group on Ada (SIGAda) today announced that its annual award for "broad, lasting contributions to Ada technology and usage" has been named the "Robert Dewar Award for Outstanding Ada Community Contributions". Dr. Dewar, who passed away in June 2015, received this award himself in 1995 – it was then known as SIGAda's Ada Community Contributions Award – in recognition of his innovative technological achievements surrounding the Ada language. Other past recipients of this award include Jean Ichbiah, the head of the design team for the original Ada language; and Tucker Taft, the head of the Ada 95 revision team. This year's recipient(s) of the Robert Dewar Award for Outstanding Ada Community Contributions will be announced at SIGAda's High-Integrity Language Technology (HILT) workshop during Embedded Systems Week in Pittsburgh in October.

"It is hard to overestimate how Robert Dewar shaped the Ada landscape throughout his professional career," said Dr. David Cook, SIGAda Chair. "He was an innovator, and an inspiration to many. I personally compiled my first Ada program in 1986 during a tutorial and workshop taught by Robert. On behalf of SIGAda, it is our honor to have our award named after him."

About Dr. Dewar

Robert Dewar led a long and distinguished career in both academia and industry, with a focus on the Ada programming language which he saw as the best choice for developing reliable, safe and secure software. With his broad and deep experience in programming languages and their implementation, he was a key contributor to both the initial Ada language design and its subsequent revisions. A Professor of Computer Science at New York University, Dr. Dewar was one of the architects of the Ada/Ed compiler, which served as an operational definition of the Ada 83 language, and he later led the team that designed and implemented the GNAT compiler technology for Ada 95.

Together with several colleagues from NYU, Dr. Dewar founded AdaCore (then Ada Core Technologies) in the mid-1990s in New York and Paris, to productize GNAT for commercial users of Ada 95 and also to make GNAT binaries available free of charge to academic institutions and others developing non-proprietary software. Dr. Dewar served as President of AdaCore, and continued to contribute to the Ada language standardization effort and the GNAT technology, until his death last year.

About ACM SIGAda

ACM SIGAda is a professional society focused on the Ada language and its many aspects including standardization, development environments, usage/experience, implementation, and education. SIGAda holds an annual conference or workshop on High Integrity Language Technology and publishes *Ada Letters*, twice a year.

Press Contacts
Dr. David Cook, Chair, SIG Ada
chair_sigada@acm.org