

1- Name and address of chapter

Lebanese American University-Byblos ACM Student Chapter

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Byblos, Lebanon

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2- Names and email addresses of chapter officers and faculty sponsor :

Chapter Chairperson: Charbel Daoud (charbel.daoud@lau.edu)

Chapter Vice-Chairperson: Christian Salem (christian.salem@lau.edu)

Chapter Secretary: Jennifer Saad (jennifer.saad@lau.edu)

Chapter Treasurer: Anthony Nahoul (anthony.nahoul@lau.edu)

Chapter Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Haidar Harmanani (hmh@case.edu)

3- About the Chapter :

Chartered by ACM's Chief Operating Officer on October 25, 2007, **the LAU-Byblos ACM Student Chapter** (www.lau-byblos.acm.org) is under the support of the Computer Science and Mathematics Department, School of Arts and Sciences in the Lebanese American University, Byblos campus. The Lebanese American University (www.lau.edu.lb) is one of the top universities in Lebanon and has the earliest Computer Science program. We open the doors for new members to sign-up twice a year at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semester. Officers are elected at the beginning of every academic year. As compared to previous years' figures of only 60 members, the Lebanese American University-Byblos ACM Student Chapter enrolled 106 members this year, the highest in Chapter's history.

Our mission is to raise people's interest in the field of technology and computing through the various events that our chapter holds. We help our members gain new skills and knowledge that they learn from one another or from experts and guest speakers whom we invite to our meetings, or from planned workshops that we organize on numerous topics. Lately, we are focusing on introducing our members to the entrepreneurship world so they start thinking of creating startups that will create an impact later on.

4- Number of students who take computer science and related courses at the Lebanese American University – Byblos

There are 83 students taking courses related to Computer Science, 20 of which are also taking Bioinformatics courses.

5- Typical majors of the chapter members

- Computer Science & Bioinformatics (more than 60%)
- Engineering
- Business

6- Webpage URL

www.lau-byblos.acm.org

7- Chapter Activities (Pictures of the events are mentioned next to the descriptions, if available)

1) **Club signup day** - 50 participants

Set up an information booth to spread the word about the club. This has been done for each semester, and has helped the chapter hit the 100 members mark

2) **Movie Night** - 20 participants

The screening of the sci-fi movie Interstellar was a successful event to raise money for future club activities

3) **Talk on Cloud computing** - 25 participants

Elie Zeidan and Elie Saad gave a talk on the subject and offered internship opportunities. This event was open to the public in collaboration with the Computer Science Department

(<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1721465554741357.1073741828.1721343511420228&type=3>)

4) **Hour of Code** - 96 participants

Orphans: Set up a booth for orphan kids visiting the university to teach them the basics of programming and entertain them. Refreshments were offered by the university

(<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.659873100821759.1073741850.403635493112189&type=3>)

Schools: Exposed High-school students to the basics of computer science and programming by completing exercises from hourofcode.com. The chapter also organized a programming competition that included 10 questions for the students to solve. The winners were selected to take part in the LAU Summer Institute competition. Certificates were distributed to participants

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1757614097793169.1073741835.1721343511420228&type=1&l=eb566f9ab4>)

5) **Pizza Party** - 93 participants

Generously sponsored by ACM, the Chapter held a pizza party for student and faculty members who contributed to the success of the Hour of Code event

6) **R Language Workshop** - 30 participants

Conducted over a three week period by Dr. George Khazen, a Bioinformatics Assistant Professor, the event was also part of the Christmas fundraising campaign by the club to help families in need

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.658778470931222.1073741849.403635493112189&type=3>)

7) **Game Jam** - 5 participants

Members from the chapter participated in the Game Jam competition and won third place. The competition brought together game developers to create a game prototype.

8) **PeaceHack Hackathon** - 7 participants

PeaceHack Beyrouth is a hackathon and part of the talking peace festival. A team from the chapter won the first prize which was an incubation program from Berytech

<https://www.facebook.com/laucsm/photos/a.640962556046147.1073741848.403635493112189/642504882558581/?type=3&theater>)

9) **Google Speaker** - 50 participants

Ex-Google employee, Rodric Haddad, gave a talk about the company and his experience in Silicon Valley and the challenges he faced there

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.703929409749461.1073741852.403635493112189&type=1>)

10) **LAU Programming Contest** - 61 participants

It is a preliminary contest for the ACPC to train ACM members who wish to participate in the regional competition. Training sessions were held to prepare students beforehand. The contest was held in collaboration with the ACM chapter from LAU Beirut campus. The competition was judged by the professional coach Mohamed Abd El-Wahab and sponsored by the Computer Science Department

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.721030931372642.1073741853.403635493112189&type=3>)

11) **LAU Science fair** - 10 participants

In collaboration with the Department of Computer Science, Chapter members were on the judging panel of the programming competition that took place at the event. High-School Students pitched their projects and competed for cash prizes

(<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.722302434578825.1073741854.403635493112189&type=3>)

12) **LAU Rally Paper** - 5 participants

The chapter volunteered to develop the Rally Paper's website of the university

(www.rallypaperlau.com)