

ACM Student Chapter Excellence Awards Application

Queen's WISC ACM-W Student Chapter

Outstanding Chapter Activities

Name of Chapter: Queen's University WISC ACM-W Student Chapter

Address of Chapter:

A brief description of the chapter and school including the number of chapter members:

The ACM-W student chapter at Queen's University represent all women including students, faculty and staff in the School of Computing. We strive to provide informal support, mentoring and advice for our current members as well as to encouraging young women to challenge and diversify the tech world.

Number of students at your school who take computer science and related courses, and typical majors of your chapter members:

Queen's is fortunate to have one of the largest female representations in Computer Science courses averaging more than 40% female. This number has been increasing every year.

URL of the chapter: <http://qscwisc.weebly.com/>

Essay:

For ACM student chapters that sponsor a series of exceptional activities throughout the year or have focused their efforts on a single major activity. Tell us about your chapter's most successful activities. Be sure to describe each activity, including how many people participated, how it was funded, and what made it a success. If you have Web pages for these activities, include the URLs.)

Throughout the busy academic year, Queen's Women in School of Computing ACM-W Student Chapter has held several events to celebrate women in computing. We create events to bring together current students, staff members and alumni to develop relationships to unify the women in computer science in our community.

Our first major event was held in the first week of school which featured several guest speakers speaking on a panel. We chose alumni from a variety of tech related professions such as working at a startup, a large corporation, and graduate students doing research. By choosing a diverse group of professionals, we hoped to appeal to as many different students as possible who were considering different career paths. In addition, we were able to have a question and answer period at the end where students were able to ask about challenges women face in a male dominated industry. Overall, it was a successful event where around 50 new and returning students had the opportunity to meet and discuss relevant issues. We also raised money during orientation week, the first week of school by holding a large "garage" sale type event. The student chapter collected items to sell and the proceeds went to booking the room and ordering the meal that went along with the event.

The second successful event that we held was jewelry making. We asked our computer science department for leftover and old computer parts and invited students to come use their creativity to create jewelry. We had about 30 members come out and everyone loved the event. Participants made necklaces, earrings, rings and key chains while chatting with friends and other members. This event was a success because it provided a relaxed environment and focused on the community of women in tech at Queen's. Members brought new friends who got to meet other participants thus increasing our network and the size of our ACM-W chapter. See pictures below for some event highlights!



