Ideas for Chapter Activities

The kinds of activities a chapter can undertake are endless, depending on the creativity and interest of each group. But here are a few examples of social and professional activities that may be of interest to your group:

- **Distinguished Speakers Program/ Lectures**
  
  Description: Invite one of ACM’s distinguished speakers to speak with your chapter on a topic of your choice. Plan the event with other local organizations and publicize it well to recruit a big audience or even new chapter members. [http://www.dsp.acm.org/](http://www.dsp.acm.org/)

- **Panel Discussions and Roundtables**
  
  Description: Invite three or four people from the technology workforce or organize the event with members from your chapter. This will encourage discussions and trade of ideas and opinions.

- **Screenings**
  
  Description: Screening of past ACM/SIG DVDs ie: SIGGRAPH CAF, Electronic Theater, etc. This is also an opportunity to screen locally created short films or preview new animated movies.

- **Joint Meetings**
  
  Description: Joint meetings are a great way to interact with local professionals. It is also an opportunity for professional chapters to meet with local Student chapters to teach and advise.

- **Mixers/ Social Events**
  
  Description: Host an event, dinner, dessert party where the main purpose is to meet and greet. Have others interact with one another and exchange thoughts and ideas. For a change of pace, these events can be hosted at bowling alleys, bars, restaurants or at a park on a nice day.

- **Sports Teams**
  
  Description: Enlist your chapter in a local sporting league. This will promote unity and bonding amongst chapter members, as well as encourage friendly competition!

- **Holiday Party**
  
  Description: Celebrate the holidays together with food, drinks, games and prizes! A great chance to get to know all the members and officers better.
- **How-to Presentations**

Description: Have an expert in a specific field demonstrate and teach. How to’s can range from anything including “How to fix a resume” to “How to use photoshop,” and more! The sky is the limit.

- **Fundraising**

Description: Fundraising is a great way to earn money for your chapter to help with conference fees, etc. Raffles, dance-a-thons, coffee and donut sales, are just a few great ways.

- **BYOA:**

Bring your own Annimation. Hook up a computer to a screen and ask individuals to bring their work on a USB or DVD to play for everyone. This event can provide individuals the opportunity to share what they’ve been working on and to learn about what others are doing as well.

- **Conference**

Description: Sponsor or co-sponsor a conference with a local non-profit organization. A conference is an excellent platform for researchers in all current areas of information technology to present their latest research findings, as well as an open forum for networking and exchanging of ideas.

- **App Workshop**

Description: There are hundreds of thousands of apps available in the app store and the numbers are ever increasing. What makes an app good, and how can we quantify that? Host a talk that explores these questions, and use example apps to illustrate relevant features.

- **Networking**

Description: Interact with other people to exchange information and develop contacts.

- **Seminars**

Description: Seminars have the function of bringing together small groups for recurring meetings, focusing each time on some particular subject, in which everyone present is requested to actively participate. This is often accomplished through an ongoing dialogue with a seminar leader or instructor, or through a more formal presentation of research. They are essentially a place where assigned readings are discussed, questions can be raised and debates can be conducted. They are relatively informal.