University of Cincinnati ACM-W Student Chapter

Application for ACM Student Chapter Excellence Program

Chapter Activities Category

■ Name and address of chapter

Name of Student Organization:
　　　Association for Computing Machinery - Committee on Women (ACM-W)
　　　Student Chapter

Address/Mail Location:

　　　Attn: Karen Davis
　　　RHODES 828
　　　2851 Woodside Dr
　　　Cincinnati OH 45221-0030

■ Names and email addresses of chapter officers and faculty sponsor

　　　Faculty Sponsor: **Dr. Karen Davis (karen.davis@uc.edu)**
　　　President: **Sumeet Ranu (ranusk@mail.uc.edu)**
　　　Vice President: **Mansi Patel (pate2me@mail.uc.edu**
　　　Treasurer: **Juanita Dickhaus (dickhajm@mail.uc.edu)**
　　　Secretary/Webmaster: **Ellana Sell (sellen@mail.uc.edu)**
　　　Community Service Chair: **Grace Gamstetter (gamstegl@mail.uc.edu)**
　　　Graduate-Student Liaison Chair: **Surbhi Bhatnagar**
　　　(bhatnash@mail.uc.edu)
　　　Membership and Outreach Chair: **Vaishnavi Kolimi**
　　　(kolimisi@mail.uc.edu)

■ A brief description of your chapter and school including number of chapter members

　　　The purpose of our organization is to retain and recruit women in computing at the University of Cincinnati. Our chapter has about 50-60 members. In its second year of being a student group, our organization has raised funding to aid our philanthropy and community engagement goals for the Cincinnati community, Microsoft Corporation and Google Corporation.

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

The typical majors of our chapter members are Computer Science, Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering. The numbers of students enrolled in these programs are

CS: 321

CE: 255

EE: 329

There are a total of 905 students enrolled in computer-related majors.

- URL for your chapter home page:

  http://www.ceas3.uc.edu/acm-w/

Essay: Chapter Activities

The University of Cincinnati ACM-W chapter was founded with the goal of supporting and helping increase the retention of women in computing. Therefore, our chapter activities are primarily focused on developing members at our university as well as reaching out to our community to help young girls enter STEM fields. Most of our activities are centered on giving women in computing access to resources, support groups and technical knowledge that can help them excel in STEM fields. These activities keep our members engaged, while allowing us to give back to the community by helping the girls that will be in our shoes one day.

Member Development:
1. TRIWiC Conference: This February, we took 15 of our ACM-W members to this local ACM-W celebration held in Cincinnati. We raised money to take all of these members and also organized a carpool, to ensure that everyone had a way to get to the venue. This gave members a glimpse into how other women in computing overcame struggles to reach where they are now. The ACM-W exec members also held a panel highlighting the challenges faced while forming this chapter on campus.

2. Professional Development Week: During our University's career fair activities, we hosted Fortune 500 companies such as Marathon, General Electric and Northrop Grumman at career building events. Our members, and all University students were welcome to take advantage of these weeklong networking activities. We leveraged our connections (some through employment and others through external networking) to have these companies give students their time, and collectively reached over a hundred students.

3. Other Events: All year round, we held activities such as Student Government panels, workshops and guest speaker sessions in order to keep our members engaged and informed.

Community Development:
1. Google Sponsored Bearcat Coders: Bearcat Coders is a mentorship program that we hold at a local high school, with support from Google. Students get the chance to mentor high school students in STEM programs, playing the role of a tutor, mentor and a project manager.

2. Microsoft's Digigirlz: Digigirlz is an event that Microsoft holds for high school girls, to introduce them to STEM fields. Our chapter helped Microsoft organize and hold a one-day camp for fifty girls from all over the state to learn how to code. We were actively involved in planning the exercises, setting up the event logistics and volunteering the day of the event.

3. Peer tutoring: Our ACM-W chapter collaborated with other engineering groups on campus to hold daily peer-tutoring to help students get through tough classes and to ultimately increase the retention of students. Roughly a hundred students were benefitted from this semester-long tutoring.

Our chapter takes pride in all of the events we hold. The best part is hearing members tell stories about how one of these events helped them stay in this amazing field. We try our best to make an impact on our members, the local community and the future generations of computer scientists!