

Chapter name: BUIEMS ACM Student Chapter

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Brief introduction of the chapter:

ACM (association for computing machinery) the world's largest association for computer scientists and engineers, welcomed yet more members into its fold, as its student chapter was formally launched at BUITEMS on June 9, 2016. A successful inauguration ceremony was organized at the faculty of ICT on this very valuable day. This chapter is known to be the first ACM student chapter in the province of Baluchistan among the 33 active chapters in Pakistan. Our chapter initiated to perform several activities especially related to research in the computer science and information technology fields as well as continue organizing such seminars, workshops and competitions in the relevant field. We have 45 chapter members from our university.

Number of students who takes computer science and related courses is about 200, and the typical majors of chapter members include software engineering, information technology and computer science.

Chapter URL

<http://buitems.acm.org/>

Outstanding recruitment program:

The BUITEMS ACM chapter was established on May 11, 2016. Faculty sponsors started the hunt of student members by extensively interviewing the bright and energetic students in computing disciplines at our faculty. Our recruitment program was initiated by the chapter sponsors who teamed up with few volunteer students from the three major departments (Information Technology, Computer Science and Software Engineering) introducing the chapter to them through an introductory yet a very attractive presentation. Later on the chapter executive body was finalized through election and selection procedure.

This chapter targets three departments among the faculty of Information and Communication Technology where the strength of students is about 200. The team started with a smaller figure, however currently we are 45 registered members and 77 members who have joined the

association.

The first and foremost challenge in the newly initiated chapter was to motivate our fellows and lift the membership drive. Nevertheless, our faculty supporters convinced us that following the goals of ACM chapter gradually would work out all our way. The main goals defined by our team included providing computing education to the community, sharing the valuable knowledge and providing updates about the latest technology in the technological world. A majority of students enjoyed the ACM advantages throughout the year and these advantages included opportunity to seek mentorship under seniors, how to work in a real time environment, concession in event registration fees, a chance to have meaningful interactions and many others. The students were attracted by arranging various workshops including game development and youth empowerment sessions. The invited speakers were the successful professionals in respective fields.

Another trial for ACM chapter was the fact that Baluchistan is known as a quite remote area and poverty rate is little high and owing to this fact, most of the students here avail some kind of need based or other governmental scholarships. This motivated our team to arrange a fund raising campaign at the campus. This campaign was not huge though, deploying tea and snack stall for faculty members and students, some funds were raised and the chapter decided to bear ACM registration fee of three student members in consecutive events through a lucky draw. These small efforts attracted the fellow students to attend our events and get the membership of ACM with a great response.

One of the major challenges which recruiting the ACM team was to encourage participation from female members. This challenge was surprisingly met when the majority of active female members were nominated for office bearer positions. Young girls in computing took up each event of ACM Chapter as a new challenge and were able to successfully arrange several events. Thus the key positions of first cabinet (chair, general secretary, membership chair and publication chair) were being taken up by female students.

BUIITEMS ACM chapter is currently trying to collaborate with other universities in Baluchistan in order to increase the promotion on this valuable society.

