



## **ACM Student Chapter Excellence Awards Application**

The ACM Student Chapter Excellence Awards Program recognizes chapters that display considerable initiative during the academic year. Chapters who apply must be in a good standing which includes having an active status, a complete chapter officer list and at least 10 chapter members on the Chapter Administrative Interface. There are five categories student chapters may choose from: Outstanding Chapter Activities, Outstanding Chapter Website, Outstanding Recruitment Program, Outstanding Community Service, or Outstanding School Service. **Please submit separate applications for every category your chapter is applying for. Hand-written submissions will not be accepted.**

Application must be submitted to [local\\_activities@acm.org](mailto:local_activities@acm.org) by **March 23, 2018**. In the subject line please state your chapter name and the category for which you would like your chapter to be considered.

The last section of this application will require an essay. Please review the guidelines below for the category you are applying to.

### **Outstanding Chapter Activities**

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.

### **Outstanding Chapter Website**

For ACM student chapters that maintain an outstanding chapter website. Tell us about the design and content of your website and any noteworthy features. Also tell us how you created it and what you do to keep it up to date. Don't forget to provide the URL so the judges can check it out.

### **Outstanding Recruitment Program**

For ACM student chapters that have done an excellent job of recruiting chapter members. Tell us about your recruiting program. How do you let students at your school know about your chapter and how do you get them interested in joining? What factors are most critical to your success? How many members does your chapter have?

### **Outstanding Community Service**

For ACM student chapters that have made significant contributions to their communities through one major service project or a series of smaller projects. Tell



us about each project, who it served, and how many people participated. Why was your chapter interested in these particular projects? If you have web pages for these projects, include the URLs.

### **Outstanding School Service**

For ACM student chapters that have made significant contributions to their own schools through one major service project or a series of smaller projects. Tell us about projects that help your fellow students, your department, or your school in general. Tell us about each project, how many people participated, and how it helped your school. If you have web pages for these projects, include the URLs. (Note, if you have worked on projects to help other schools, for example neighboring high schools, apply for the Community Service award rather than the School Service award.)



## ACM Student Chapter Excellence Awards Application

Chapter Group ID: 51744  
Name of Chapter: University of Wisconsin-Madison ACM-W Student Chapter(WACM)  
Chapter Address: 1210 W Dayton St, Madison, WI 53706.  
URL for your Chapter homepage: http://wacm.cs.wisc.edu  
Category you are applying for: Outstanding chapter website

### Chapter Officers

Chair Name: Ancy Philip  
Email: aphilip@wisc.edu  
Vice Chair: Pallavi Ghosh  
Email: pghosh8@wisc.edu  
Treasurer: Meena Syamkumar  
Email: msyamkumar@wisc.edu  
Faculty Sponsor: Andrea Arpaci-Dusseau  
Email: dusseau@cs.wisc.edu  
Secretary (if applicable): Yugali Gullapalli  
Email: ygullapalli@wisc.edu  
Membership Chair (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Web Master (if applicable): Alayna Truttmann  
Email: atruttmann@wisc.edu



Please provide a brief description of your chapter and school including number of chapter members (1500 character maximum):

For 168 years, University of Wisconsin-Madison has been a catalyst for the extraordinary. As a public land-grant university and prolific research institution, our students, staff, and faculty members partake in a world-class education and solve real-world problems. We've changed the way the nation takes its vitamins and brought flamingos to Bascom Hill. We've inspired satirists and senators alike. We've fearlessly sifted and winnowed to find today's truths. And with the Wisconsin Idea as our guiding principle, we're not only changing the 936 acres we call home—Badgers are also creating a better future for Wisconsin, the nation, and the world.

The mission of WACM, UW-Madison, is to foster an environment in the Computer Sciences (CS) department where women thrive. We are committed to making our students confident that they can excel in CS and have a bright future; consequently increasing the percentage of women in CS. The majority of our events are constructed as women-only events. Such unique opportunities provide a great platform for female students to interact with female experts in CS without getting intimidated. Our membership is free of charge, so that it is accessible to all women. We solely function using the sponsorship from our department and few companies. We have around 200 WACM members. WACM has won both the CS Department service awards and Graduate peer mentor awards for its contribution in mentoring and serving women students in the last two years.

Number of students at your school who take computer science and related courses, and typical majors of your chapter members (1000 character maximum):

Typical majors of our chapter members are computer science (undergraduate, graduate, doctoral and postdoctoral women). However we also encourage students who have enrolled in at least 1 computer science course to join our club.

1051 undergraduate students in CS

14% of these are women = 147 women.

177 students in PhD, 199 in masters of Science Total 376

Of these 16% are women = 60 women.

(<https://tools.grad.wisc.u60/webextras/education/academicprograms/profiles/229.pdf>)



An essay on the category for which your chapter would like to be considered (4000 character maximum - approximately 500 words):

1) Corporate sponsored events :We collaborate with companies to hold tech talks and networking events typically as a lunch or dinner. WACM tours local corporate offices such as Microsoft Gray Systems Lab, Google Madison, and Epic Systems to talk to tech teams, learn about their work and more about the tech industry. The chief motivator for corporate sponsored events is to show students how the topics they learn in class are translated into solutions for practical problems. We had a total of 190 students participating this year ( Fall 2017- Spring 2018)

Funded by: EPIC, Google, Microsoft, Kohl's,Target, ARM, Intel

2) Mentoring program: Our mentoring program matches graduate and upperclassmen undergraduate mentors with mentees to form one-on-one associations based on their areas of interest in CS. Mentors and mentees talk about course selection, grad school vs. industry, scholarship applications, interview preparations and volunteer opportunities and help them build a network of peers in computer science. We also bring in a career mentor for additional mentoring! We had a total of 80 students participating this year. Funded by:gAlpha, Google, CS Department

Following programs are funded by: CS Department, Sponsors of WACM

3) Speaker Series: We invite distinguished women from academia and industry as guests and conduct social events. The students have a round-table discussion with the guest speaker to learn about their accomplishments. We had a total of 32 students this year.

4) Biweekly lunches:This is the perfect gathering for all WACM members and Women in Tech to stay in touch, exchange updates about the advances in relevant field and most of all meet people with similar goals and aspirations. In each cycle we choose a different theme or a topic for the day. These lunches give students the opportunity to regularly interact with female Professors in an informal setting. This is a "bring your own food" event and a sum of up to \$7 is reimbursed upon receipt display. We had a total of 200 participants this year.

5) Social events:WACM hosts informal social events such as an annual potluck dinner to welcome new students, dinner at professor's house, fall brunch, end semester dinner and donut socials. We had a total of 118 participants this year.

6)WACM Explains:WACM members present educational sessions open to all CS students on topics such as entrepreneurship, learning Linux, Android, github, Django, website building . We had a total of 80 participants this year.

7) Grace Hopper Conference Scholarships:Each year WACM provides scholarships for women to attend the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing.We have found that sending undergraduate and graduate students to Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing has an extraordinary effect on their self-confidence, their determination to continue in Computer Sciences, provides a platform to present their research and work to a wide audience, and also helps them to obtain multiple job offers both for full-time and internships. Last year with the allocated \$16,000 budget, we funded 16 students (selected from a pool of 41 applicants) completely and funded 2 students partially (they had their registration already covered). Post conference, WACM GHC attendees hosted a panel to share and inform other students who did not get a chance to go about what they learnt at GHC.

8)Partnering with other organizations:We partner with organisations like, Women in Science and Engineering(WISE) to screen a female empowerment movie - Hidden Figures; Codecinella to hold interview practice sprints and career panel of women engineers; Wisconsin Science Festival (WSF) to teach computer science concepts to high school kids. We had a total of 122 participants this year.

Please check our upcoming events here : <http://wacm.cs.wisc.edu/events.html>

And pictures/details of our past events here: <http://wacm.cs.wisc.edu/blog.html>