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 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: 90844

Name of Chapter: UCLA ACM

Chapter Address: Boelter Hall 2763, UCLA, Los Angeles, 90095

URL for your Chapter homepage: http://acm.cs.ucla.edu

Category you are applying for: Outstanding Community Service

Chapter Officers

Chair Name: Mihir Mathur

Email: mihirmathur@ucla.edu

Vice Chair: Jennifer Liaw

Email: jennifer.liaw07@gmail.com

Treasurer: Yun Xu

Email: yunx96@gmail.com

Faculty Sponsor: David A. Smallberg

Email: das@cs.ucla.edu

Secretary (if applicable):

Email:

Membership Chair (if applicable):

Email:

Web Master (if applicable): Nikhil Kansal

Email: nkansal96@gmail.com

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

"UCLA Samueli School of Engineering is a tightly knit community of 180 full-time faculty members, 3,500 undergraduate, 3,000 graduate students & 40,000 active alumni. Known as the Birthplace of the Internet, UCLA Samueli is also where countless other fields took some of their first steps–from artificial intelligence to reverse osmosis, from mobile communications to human prosthetics. We are consistently ranked in the Top 10 among U.S. public engineering schools." (http://engineering.ucla.edu/about/)

Our chapter, UCLA ACM has grown to be one of the largest student-run tech organizations in Southern California with over 700 members. Our club is organized into 6 sub-groups:

ACM AI: To nurture curiosity and enthusiasm in artificial intelligence and machine learning.
ACM Interactive Studio: To create a community where developers interested in game, development and virtual reality can connect, learn and create.
ACM ICPC: To promote critical thinking and problem solving through practice and participation in programming competitions and hosting training sessions to get people ready for ICPC.
ACM Hack: To empower UCLA students to influence their world through code by teaching them mobile and web development.
ACM-W: To support and advocate for the full engagement of all who are interested in computer science. Additionally, ACM-W endeavors to increase all aspects of diversity in the technical field.
ACM Netsec: To foster a community for cybersecurity.

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

About 1200 undergraduates at UCLA are in Computer Science or related majors. However, many more majors take Computer Science courses at UCLA.

At UCLA ACM, we have over 700 members. Membership and our events are free for all students at UCLA. Our members come from a large set of majors such as:

Computer Science
Electrical Engineering
Mathematics of Computation
Linguistics
Physics
Statistics
Bioengineering
Design Media Arts
Civil Engineering
Business Economics
Computational & Systems Biology

We have developed our own portal for handling membership. Anyone with a UCLA email id can get an account at https://members.uclaacm.com/ We use this portal for checking into our events and programs. Every event has points associated and we have a leaderboard that shows all members and our top members who participated in most events. We reward the top 10 members every quarter. We also have a list of resources on the membership portal.

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

Last year, UCLA ACM launched <TEACH LA> which connects undergraduates with schools in Los Angeles that need free computer science courses. Undergraduates teach and plan courses in Python, Java, HTML, CSS, JavaScript etc. to students who otherwise would not have the chance to learn programming. ACM's outreach first started with a Java course for twenty high school students at Santa Monica High School. The purpose of the course was to teach students the fundamentals of object-oriented programming and to get them prepared for the AP Computer Science exam. Now, our program <Teach LA> has taught more than 100 middle and high-school students web development and Python, just during this school year.

<Teach LA> recruits and trains undergraduates to be knowledgeable instructors. Every week, teachers go through curriculum and pedagogy training, where they learn new educational practices they can bring to the classroom. This school year, we launched a three-part web development course at Marlborough School and taught middle school and high school girls how to program their own website. We delved into advanced topics like React and Nodejs. Since the beginning of the year, we have also taught Python at Mark Twain Middle School, and plan on expanding to two new schools in spring quarter, including a Title I school. We hope to continue to make computer science education fun and accessible to all. Here's a blog post from Marlborough School: http://stem.marlborough.org/blog/ucla-coding-workshops/

We are also organizing a new large-scale event, CS Fair at UCLA, for impacting underrepresented communities in Computer Science. The aim of this event is to expose high school students from underrepresented and disadvantaged communities to the computer science field and technology industry. Many high schools do not have any Computer Science courses. For schools that do, students' only exposure to the field is the content they learn in their AP Computer Science or introductory CS class. However, the many other aspects of CS (e.g.,artificial intelligence and computer graphics) are barely mentioned at all. The field of computer science is so much broader than the limited scope of topics a high school class can cover.

We intend to address this limited exposure by empowering students to explore the various opportunities within the computer science field, experiment with hands-on demos and technologies, and hear from industry and student speakers in panels about their experiences and insights. Attendees will also be able to speak with representatives from various technology companies and academic organizations (e.g., other student organizations, UCLA Engineering, and the CS Department) at different booths. This event is taking place on
Monday, May 21st, 2018 at UCLA.

We are committed to impacting the community around us and we continue to improve our programs for making a difference.