



## **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):

The website was designed so that all the members of the WACM can easily navigate to different pages and find the desired information within a single click. We have seven main pages on the website which include Home, About, Events, Blog, Gallery, Get Involved, and Resources. We provide links to our social media presence ( Facebook ,Twitter, Github, Instagram), on footer of all pages for easy access.

1)Home: Home page provides a high level overview of how WACM assists women in Computer Science by organizing different kinds of events.

2)About:This page contains photographs of the current officers, advisor and their contact information(email, linkedin, twitter,facebook etc). This is to ensure that individuals have an easy access to the executive board members through any media.

3)Events:Events page lists all the upcoming events that WACM hosts. It provides detailed information such as the venue, the date and time of the event, brief description of the event, link to RSVP (to order food). It also has the WACM calendar and the link for students to add the same to their calendar.

4)Blog:Blog provides the following 3 filters. We are currently working on adding a content management platform like wordpress to make it more scalable in the future.

a)Past Events:Shows pictures taken at the events and a brief description of the event with the date, number of attendees and sponsor details.Slides, code from workshops and such materials are put on our github account. A link to such resources is also added for easy access to students who missed the event.

b)Hall of Fame:This filter shows the awards WACM and it's members have received (with pictures and caption). Celebrating achievements by women is very important as other women can see role models for themselves around them. We are currently working on adding information of our highly successful women alumni, so that students can reach out to them for guidance.

c)WACM Member Feature:We started an initiative to conduct weekly interview with WACM members, to encourage women to share their challenges in CS and their advice to other women. We publish details of this on our website and a link to full interview on our Facebook page. This makes women feel more confident in their abilities, by learning from other women.

5)Gallery:It shows the images of all our events sorted by semester. Hovering over the image, gives details of the event. This gallery is sorted so that the website holds the information of the past alumni, who might wish to directly refer to their time at WACM.The main reason for having a gallery is so that women (especially prospective students, freshmen and sophomores unsure about their majors) see that they belong in CS and have a community to reach out to.

6)Get Involved:It shows information on show students and sponsors can get involved. It provides information for students to join our mailing list and slack, where most of our communication( weekly info about scholarship, job opportunities, conferences, events etc) happens. It shows logo of all our sponsors and details on how sponsors can contact us.

7)Resources:It lists scholarships, conferences, fellowships and other resources for undergrads and grads. These resources are meant to help women in Computer Science get involved in research opportunities, attend conferences, and build their network. For example, a great number of women are made aware of the Grace hopper Celebration (GHC) Scholarship through the WACM website.

This website was created using HTML, CSS, JS, Bootstrap, jQuery.

If we make changes to a planned event or add a new event, we discuss the modifications in the general board meeting which is held every Sunday. The web mistress updates the website with the new information as soon as possible right after the meeting is done.