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 Website

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):

Links
Website: http://uclaacm.com
Membership Portal: https://members.uclaacm.com
(login: nkansal@ucla.edu; password: ACMmembers)
UCLA ACM Style Guide: http://design.uclaacm.com

Source Code
Membership Portal UI: https://github.com/uclaacm/membership-portal-ui
Membership Portal Backend: https://github.com/uclaacm/membership-portal
Website: https://github.com/uclaacm/website

Our website was newly redesigned and rebranded this year. Built from scratch over the course of the summer, we created a website that truly reflects our chapter's values and community. Our tagline – code the future – summarizes our mission: to best equip the UCLA community to make use of computing to change their world.

We're composed of six sub-committees – each focusing on a particular niche of computer science. Each committee has a unique color and logo that we use to distinguish their branding with. The homepage features them all, and the header swings between their colors to visualize our unity.

The second major part of our website is the ACM Membership Portal, which keeps track of our membership. The portal has allowed us to gamify our events, encouraging our members to continuously attend throughout the quarter to win some cool prizes. It shows a leaderboard of all members, as well as the user's activity (events they've attended, achievements they've unlocked, etc.). It also allows us, ACM chapter officers, to create events and attendance codes and view event analytics, top members for each committee, as well as the most effective days and times to host our events. This portal has effectively allowed us to unify our community. And we're still adding features – several other student organizations have asked us to deploy one for them, seeing the success we've had with it.

Our whole website is built with the best design principles. Everything is containerized, and updating content is just a matter of updating its configuration in JSON. This eliminates the need to re-engineer it every year, and we really think that the design and branding we've built will stay with us for years to come, helping us to ingrain our values into the community.