ACM 2018-2019 Student Chapter Excellence Awards Application

For Application Guidelines, see https://www.acm.org/chapters/student-chapter-excellence-awards

Award Category: Outstanding School Service

Chapter Name: *

New Jersey Institute of Technology (46325)   ▼

City: *

Newark

State/Province:

NJ

Country: *

USA   ▼

Outstanding School Service: Chapter Contact Information

Please provide all required information

URL for your Chapter homepage: *

For example, https://www.acm.org

http://njit.acm.org/

Facebook:

Who is submitting this application? *

Enter Submitter's name

Matthew Gasin

Submitter's Email: *

Enter Submitter's email

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Faculty Sponsor Name: *

Donald Kehoe

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Outstanding School Service: Chapter Achievements

Provide brief descriptions as requested, and stay within the character limit for each

Please provide a brief description of your chapter and school (1500 character maximum) *

The New Jersey Institute of Technology is the Science & Technology University of NJ. Besides being the filming location for parts of The Sopranos, NJIT is also famous for its rank as the #1 school for student upward mobility, allowing a diverse range of students to climb the economic ladder doing what they love. Over 500 academic staff, 8000 undergraduate students, and 2000 postgraduates contribute to the amazing community here. These students are split among the five colleges of the university. The youngest and largest of these colleges is the Ying Wu College of Computing Sciences.

Within YWCC are the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Informatics. The most popular majors of these departments are Computer Science, Information Technology, and Information Systems. These majors have huge communities around them, and here is where our ACM chapter comes in.

The NJIT ACM acts as the undergraduate hub for all things Computer Science. First off, we run all tutoring YWCC, managing over twenty paid and volunteer tutors to offer assistance for all CS/IT/IS courses. Besides tutoring, we also offer our own SIGs, where our more skilled and veteran members teach computing topics to interested students. These SIGs are often hosted in our office, which is filled with bright young computer scientists from the early morning until late at night. It is not uncommon to find our members working on school work, developing passion projects, or discussing ideas in our office.

Outstanding School Service Essay Guidelines (4000 character maximum) *

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.)

Our ACM chapter is a vital asset to NJIT's Ying Wu College of Computing (YWCC), and provides ancillary services that include tutoring undergraduate CS/IT/IS students, staffing department-wide events, hosting a large Hackathon, providing SIGs, supporting partner organizations at NJIT, and more.

We provide free tutoring services for all CS/IT/IS courses at NJIT. We staff a team of 10-20 paid and volunteer tutors, who are available every week to provide assistance to students who need it. Our tutoring center has become a hub for students on campus to work on Computing Sciences classwork. I have personally seen hundreds of unique students come in to find assistance and guidance from us.

Another job we handle for YWCC is staffing department-wide events like our open houses (for prospective freshmen) and "Experience Day" (for admitted freshmen). NJIT calls ACM students in as first-hand information hubs and success stories. We man the tables for all YWCC majors throughout the day, feature our members on speaking panels, and provide volunteers to help set up and run parts of the event. This opportunity allows us to directly connect with our potential future members, while also building up the reputation of our department and university.

We also host a large annual hackathon called HackNJIT (see http://hacknjit.org), which challenges over 300 students from NJIT and other East Coast universities to design and develop their own projects in 24 hours. ACM works closely with YWCC and Major League Hacking every year to plan the entire event. This includes selecting the venue, recruiting corporate sponsors, organizing events during the Hackathon (Cup Stacking and Pi-Eating Contests are local favorites), arranging catering and drinks, judging the final submissions, and much more. HackNJIT is one of the largest annual events at NJIT, and we are thrilled to run it every year. Not only does it promote the brand of our university, but it also provides our students with a chance to apply what they've learned in the classroom, gain experience working in teams, and even connect with recruiters from our corporate sponsors. And, most importantly of all, it's a lot of fun!

Another big attraction for our students is our array of Special Interest Groups (SIGs). We recruit some of our more experienced members to teach topics they are passionate about to other members in our club. Some SIGs that we currently run or have run recently include Android Development, Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Web Development, Linux, iOS development,

Algorithms, Sound, Security-Audit-Control, Multimedia, Cryptography, and more. These groups usually draw in around 5-15 interested students and meet weekly to explore the basics of the topic and/or work on a group project for the semester.

Finally, we collaborate in various ways with many other organizations at NJIT. We promote and help recruit for our partner organizations, including NJIT's IEEE Chapter, ICPC Team, Women in Computing Society, and Esports Team. Furthermore, just since the new year, we've provided guidance for Arduino Day, an event hosted by IEEE; we've provided guidance, volunteers, and project leaders for a local Hackathon, led by a non-profit called Project Innovate Newark, targeted to students from NJIT and nearby Rutgers-Newark; and we've undertaken a project for the Student Activities Council to implement a system of "digital posters" (5 TV monitors, each linked to a Raspberry Pis and connected to a central server) throughout campus that SAC can remotely and instantly deploy images to in order to advertise their events.

In short, our ACM chapter is a vibrant community that strives to serve fellow students, and it has established itself as an invaluable resource for our department and for NJIT at large.

This form was created inside of Association for Computing Machinery.

Google Forms