Submission Type: Outstanding Service Awards

Chapter Name: Women in Computing

Address: 150 College Ave E, Ephraim, UT 84627

Sponsor: Kristal Ray

Sponsor E-mail Address: kristal.ray@snow.edu

President: Keaton Evans

President E-mail Address: keatonevans53@yahoo.com

Vice President: Kara Bayn

Vice President Email Address: karabearmail@yahoo.com

We are the first ACM-W chapter at Snow College. Snow College is a school with roughly 2000 students. Most industry in the area is agricultural. Next year, Snow College will initiate its new four-year software engineering program. Of the forty people who are likely to go in the program, probably 10 are women. Around 5 of them participate in activities on a regular basis. We have made it our focus to work with the schools in our area and increase the level of interest in computer science, especially among women.

Students Taking Computer Science Courses: 40+

Typical Majors: Mechanical Engineering, software engineering

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/SnowCollegeACM/

In establishing the first ACM-W chapter at Snow College, one of our main focuses has been to establish a reputation of service.

Our first efforts were directed towards setting up an online presence. We established a club email, Facebook page, and website. Our goal was to lay a foundation for the people who would help run the club in the future. As part of this, we worked to develop our own unique logo that we could use as our symbol. We ran through a multitude of different ideas for a logo. Eventually, we started working with the Snow College marketing department. We came up with the logo which is now on our Facebook page. Our work also served as the foundation for the logo for Snow College's newly started four-year software engineering degree.

One of our main service projects has been starting a Girls Who Code club at the Ephraim Middle school. To do so, we worked to apply for a grant through Google's CS ignite program. We ended up securing a 6,700-dollar grant which allowed us to purchase Ozobots and other supplies for the school year. The Girls Who code club reached 19 members by December. Three of these were the mothers of the actual students. They wanted to learn how to code along with their daughters. Several of our members are also participating in a coding camp over the summer which will be partially composed of this group of women.

Around November, we also hosted National Computer Science Week at Snow College and helped prepare for the celebration of the first 4-year Software Engineering program at Snow College. We planned such online events as a computer science trivia game, programming contest, gaming contests, and a dinner to which we invited many local tech businesses and faculty members. The event proved to be a resounding success. The dinner had over 100 people attend. People from various high schools in our area participated in the programming contest. The activities also drove many people to our Facebook page. It helped us establish connections with people online and gain more publicity.

Around December, we also participated in Hour of Code. We had over 15 volunteers come and volunteer for 4 hours at the Gunnison middle school. We introduced around 300 students to coding. The response was very positive. Daniela Vazquez of the Sanpete Messenger even wrote an article about the event which was published on December 15.

We hope to continue building our club and work with schools in the community to generate interest in computer science. Ephraim and the surrounding area lack much of the opportunities that many more populated places have. We hope to provide opportunities to students in the area through introducing students to computing while also building up ACM-W at Snow College.

Summer Camp Hosted at Snow: https://www.girlsgodigital.org

Girls Who Code Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/ephraimgirlswhocode/