

ACM 2023-2024 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: *

BITS, Pilani - Dubai ACM Student Chapter (85704) ▼

City: *

Dubai

State/Province:

Dubai

Country: *

United Arab Emirates ▼

Outstanding School Service: Chapter Contact Information

Please provide all required information

URL for your Chapter homepage (for example, <https://www.acm.org>): *

Please ensure your chapter logo abides by ACM's Chapter Logo Policy (<https://www.acm.org/chapters/chapter-policies>).

<https://www.acmbpdc.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.instagram.com/acmbpdc>

Who is submitting this application? *

Enter Submitter's name

Mohamed Firas Adil

Submitter's Email: *

Enter Submitter's email

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Faculty Sponsor Name: *

Dr. Sujala Shetty

Faculty Sponsor Email: *

sujala@dubai.bits-pilani.ac.in

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) *

BITS Pilani, Dubai Campus (BPDC) is the international campus of Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India and is located at the Dubai International Academic City. Set up in the year 2000, it is among the pioneer institutions in Dubai. BITS Pilani, Dubai Campus offers B.E, M.E., M.B.A. and Ph.D. programmes in various engineering and allied disciplines, wherein nearly 1200 students are admitted from diverse backgrounds.

The BPDC ACM Student Chapter is the largest computer science association at BPDC. Our goal is to empower the computer science community with the essentials, and foundations required to be literate in up and coming fields so that they have a competitive advantage when they graduate in the industry or at research. Established in 2010, the BPDC ACM Student Chapter is the oldest chapter in the Middle East region serving 200+ members passionate about computing. The BPDC ACM Student Chapter is characterized by our four cornerstones:

1. To expand ourselves into new horizons as we embark in mutually sharing knowledge and sustainable passion.
 2. To create an environment that caters to an individual's personal interests with potential for professional growth and learning
 3. To have our members explore a world of nuances involving the integration of computing with industry and research to be a career ready student
 4. To push boundaries as we grow and develop a community with a passion for programming, problem solving, research and team engagement.
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Outstanding School Service Essay Guidelines (4000 character maximum) *

Tell us about projects that help your fellow students, your department, or your school in general - you may list a maximum of 4. Please ensure to enumerate each one and place in order from oldest to newest. Tell us about each project including: the date (add end date if it was multiple days), how many people participated, and how it helped your fellow students, your department, or your school in general. 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.) Please be sure to use your chapter's official name - do not refer to your chapter as 'ACM,' 'ACM-W' or 'WICS.' Please note, links to essays will not be accepted and will disqualify your chapter.

The BPDC ACM Student Chapter is dedicated to empowering the next generation of computer scientists and engineers by offering a wide array of meticulously curated events, programs, and initiatives aimed at enhancing both the technical and soft skills of college students. Our mission centers on creating an environment that encourages exploration of the vast landscape of computer science, promotes in-depth research, and prepares students for future challenges and opportunities.

Open Source Projects for students: Open lib.cs is a webapp that aims to ensure equitable access to educational resources. We launched an open-source repository for textbooks, references and other educational resources. This initiative ensures all students have access to crucial resources to prepare them for their coursework.

Link : <https://openlib-cs.acmbpdc.org>

Project Truffle is an innovative webapp focusing on Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence projects, aimed at providing students with hands-on experience in cutting-edge technologies. It fosters collaboration and innovation within the student community, offering a practical approach to learning and research. Link : <https://truffle.acmbpdc.org/>

Talks Series: Enlightening Sessions with Industry Experts: The Talks series organized by the BPDC ACM Student Chapter aims at preparing students for their professional careers through informative talks from industry experts. The series has been attended by over 200 students over the past year. Some of the talks covered are listed below:-

Beyond Code, Crafting a Future with Responsible AI (27th November 2023): Featuring Ricardo Baeza-Yates from the ACM DSP program, Director of Research at the Institute of Experiential AI, Northeastern University. Ricardo shared his expertise on AI ethics, emphasizing the need for AI systems to embody human values and the importance of ethical considerations in AI development.

Navigating Computer Science with Shoab Mohammed (19th December 2023), and Unlocking Success with Zhaoyi Zhang (23rd February 2024) were talks from working professionals on their experiences at companies like Amazon and Oracle.

The Learn Program, which took place from the 9th to the 11th of December 2023, plays a pivotal role every semester in narrowing the educational divide for students from various academic standings. This initiative provides laboratory sessions focusing on essential computer science courses such as C Programming, Object-Oriented Programming, and Computer Architecture. Designed to bolster practical abilities and ready students for their comprehensive examinations and forthcoming scholarly pursuits, Learn has successfully engaged over 150 participants. This engagement has substantially facilitated students' readiness for examinations and their application of practical skills.

MentorSphere: a mentorship initiative designed to guide and support first-year students through the

multifaceted challenges of academics, career planning, project development, and personal growth. This semester-long program exemplifies our commitment to fostering a nurturing community and promoting professional development among our students. Launched on March 16th 2024, MentorSphere pairs freshmen with experienced members of the BPDC ACM Student Chapter Council who have successfully navigated similar academic and professional paths.

The BPDC ACM Student Chapter's commitment to its students extends beyond academic and technical excellence. By creating opportunities for learning, research, and professional growth, we work to equip our students with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to excel in the dynamic field of computer science and technology. Our efforts reflect our dedication to advancing the understanding and application of computer science, preparing our students to contribute responsibly and innovatively to the industry's future.

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