

## 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.

### **BASIC INFORMATION:**

**Subject:** Bellevue College ACM - W Student Chapter - Outstanding Chapter Activities

**Name of Chapter:** Bellevue College ACM - W Student Chapter

**Address:** c/o Sylvia Unwin, Bellevue College, 3000 Landerholm Circle SE, Bellevue College, WA98007

### **Chapter Officers:**

Jessica Borda - jessica.borda@bellevuecollege.edu

Catherine Shea - catherine.shea@bellevuecollege.edu

LC Chen - lc.chen@bellevuecollege.edu

Pazuzu Jindrich - pazuzu.jindrich@bellevuecollege.edu

Andrew Peterson - andrew.peterson@bellevuecollege.edu

### **Faculty Sponsors:**

Sylvia Unwin - sunwin@bellevuecollege.edu

Fabienne Mouton - fabienne.mouton@bellevuecollege.edu

Lindi Mujugira - lindi.mujugira@bellevuecollege.edu

Christina Sciabarra - christina.sciabarra@bellevuecollege.edu

### **Brief description of Chapter and School including number of Chapter members:**

Our ACM-W Student Chapter is relatively new, however, we have a number of enthusiastic active student leaders. We officially launched our chapter on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, 2015 and we had two ACM - W members from the community visit from Microsoft - Vani Mandava and Neetu Agarwal. Vani is a Senior Program Manager at Microsoft Research and has a background in Computer Engineering, while Neetu is a Test Lead engineer at Microsoft and her background is in electronics, communications and, computer engineering.

We currently have 32 registered members. As a form of communication, we use the SLACK platform where we post meeting minutes and events.

**Our chapter goals are:**

To provide our chapter with mentoring support by connecting members to professionals in the industry and with faculty across the campus. Our plan is to invite at least one guest every quarter to a meeting on campus. To motivate more women to get involved in computer science by engaging in events that will expand their view of possible careers. Where possible, we monitor progress and growth of our chapter members.

Since launching the club – we have run two ‘Hour of Code’ events. In our 2015 event, our club was awarded an Amazon gift card for our participation. We have also held a number of fund-raising bake sales with “computer component - decorated” goods. We have had a game day event, too. As of now, we are planning an engineering demo day called “Bytes and Nibbles” in May 2017.

The focus of our event will consist of two interactive coding-based projects that uses the capabilities of an Arduino board. Attendees will be given the chance to learn how to do at least one of the projects presented on their own. Each project will vary in difficulty as an attempt to appeal to a wider audience of various backgrounds. We anticipate that our participants will be able to realize the value of learning to code as well as many of its real world applications.

**Number of students at your school who take computer science and related courses, and typical majors of your chapter members**

Several students will take a Computer Science class along with their studies in the transfer track.

In our Professional Technical degree programs the foundational courses are IT related. We offer several of these courses including Bachelor of Applied Sciences and Associate degrees as well as certificates.

Typical majors of our Chapter members: STEM related degrees - Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Computer Sciences and IT programs.

**URL for your chapter home page: <https://www.facebook.com/acmwbc/>**

**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.**

#### **HOUR OF CODE EVENT - DEC 9<sup>TH</sup> 2017 ('A' - BUILDING - ROOM A133)**

The Hour of Code event was sponsored by the Center for Career Connection and organized by the Bellevue College Association of Computing Machinery for Women (ACM - W) club. It was held on a snowy day in Seattle (which is rather unusual). Nonetheless, a group of determined participants braved the weather to attend. Rather than simply going off of the Hour of Code curriculum, we invited guest speakers, which made the event more relevant to our audience and transformed our event from a purely outreach effort to a learning experience for our campus. The faculty and speakers volunteered their time because they believe in supporting STEM students and encouraging more women, in particular, to pursue a career in the STEM field.

#### **AGENDA:**

The event started with an introduction by our faculty mentor, Sylvia Unwin, who opened the event and welcomed the 17 participants.

Following this, one of our Chapter officers, Pazuzu Jindrich, led the group through a JavaScript lesson in Khan Academy.

The following session was led by Jessica Borda, who led our group through a Minecraft exercise.

The total number of code hours clocked for the event was 31.4hours.

The Microsoft Software Developers – Casey Irvine and Jan Smrcina – led a Q and A session and provided great advice about working in the programming field as Computer Scientists in a large. Several questions were asked, and after the session was over, some students stayed behind to ask even more questions.

One of our faculty members, Kurt Friedrich, gave a brief talk about the use of Java and its various applications. Questions were asked about which classes taught those applications, so students were able to learn about other course options at the college.

Lunch was sponsored by the Center for Career Connections at Bellevue College, organized by our Associate Director, Christina Sciabarra.

In summary, the event helped contribute to the worldwide effort to clock some coding hours in an exciting, motivating environment, as well as get the chance to network and learn from professionals in the field. It also drew more potential members to the club.

(Pictures from the event are on the following pages)

HOUR OF CODE - BELLEVUE COLLEGE: ACM - W STUDENT CHAPTER (PICTURES)



Hour of Code Participants



ACM - W Student Leaders – LC, Catherine, Jessica and Pazuzu



ACM – W Faculty Advisor – Sylvia Unwin



Microsoft Developers – Casey and Jan