Upsilon Pi Epsilon
International Honor Society for the Computing and Information Disciplines

I. History

Computing is a relatively young discipline. Yet despite its comparative youth, computing has had an unparalleled effect on almost every aspect of contemporary life. Indeed it is difficult to predict the ultimate place of the computing and information disciplines in our world. It is the express purpose of Upsilon Pi Epsilon to promote the Computing and Information disciplines and to encourage their contributions to the enhancement of knowledge.

Upsilon Pi Epsilon (UPE) was first organized at Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, in 1967. The international organization now consists of over 240 chapters in various colleges and universities in North America and overseas. UPE is a tax-exempt, non-profit corporation under the 501(C)3 of the IRS Code.

II. Endorsements and Affiliation

Upsilon Pi Epsilon is the first and only, existing international honor society in the computing and information disciplines. It has received endorsements from the two largest computer organizations in the world, the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and the IEEE Computer Society (IEEE-CS). UPE is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) and is a charter member of IFEES – International Federation of Engineering Education Societies.

III. Mission Statement

The mission of Upsilon Pi Epsilon is to recognize academic excellence at both the undergraduate and graduate levels in the computing and information disciplines.

The Association will accomplish this mission through programs that:

- Enable outstanding students to obtain recognition of superior educational achievement that emphasizes the computing and information disciplines as well as liberal arts, sciences, engineering and other professional and interdisciplinary education in the context of individual and societal responsibilities,
- Assist in maximizing the personal and professional growth of students in UPE by financially supporting scholarships and other creative endeavors that include the discovery, integration, and application of knowledge,
- Establish significant partnerships with external constituencies interested in promoting and subsidizing high quality educational programs in the computing and information disciplines,
- Seek opportunities to extend individual memberships and chapter activities into additional environments yet to be identified.

IV. Partnership with the ACM

UPE has formalized a partnership with the ACM. This partnership provides UPE with computing support of the UPE member database, support for the UPE website, complimentary one-year ACM student memberships to new members of UPE, and help disseminate information on UPE to student chapters of the ACM.

V. Upsilon Pi Epsilon

- recognizes academic excellence in the computing and information disciplines,
- has chapters in various colleges and universities in North America and overseas,
- is the only honor society that is recognized by the ACM and the IEEE-CS,
- presents scholarship awards to active members,
- present scholarship awards to student members of the ACM and the IEEE-CS,
- provides financial support to the CCSC - Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges,
- provide support for the World Finals of the ICPC - ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest,
- presents the ABACUS Award - an award that is presented to the individual who has the professional renown and who, over several years, has provided extensive support and leadership for student-related activities in the computing and information disciplines,
- presents cash award to chapter representatives who are active participants at the Annual Convention of UPE,
- sponsors student activities at the annual Symposium of the SIGCSE (UPE holds it annual Convention in conjunction with the SIGCSE Symposium),
- provide special scholarship award to student chapters of the ACM-W (Women in Computing).

VI. New Chapter Formation

New chapters are chartered upon analysis of both the program in the computing and information disciplines and the interest shown in Upsilon Pi Epsilon at the sponsoring institution. If you need additional information on Upsilon Pi Epsilon, you can visit the UPE website at **www.upsilonpiepsilon.org** or send email to upe@acm.org.

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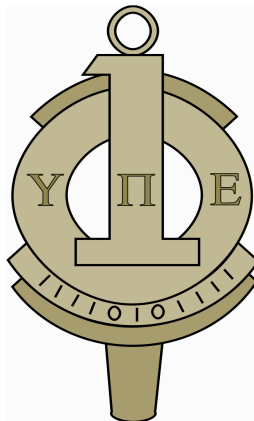
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