The Association for Computing Machinery

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock
2801 South University Drive
Little Rock AR 72204

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The Association for Computing Machinery has identified some of the difficulties being faced by students across the nation who are adapting to a new, modern learning environment in the era of the Covid-19 virus. We see that there is a need for access to computing devices for students taking classes online, and feel that this is a challenge we are well equipped to help our local community overcome.

It is with great excitement I would like to announce the intentions of the Student Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery at UA Little Rock to hold a charity drive. We ask the community to donate electronic devices that we can distribute to students who lack the necessary equipment to succeed in their education with its new online-centric modality.

It is our intention to set up a table on the 19th of September, 2020 in lot 8 from 9am to 5pm at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and collect electronic devices. We will accept equipment in any condition and encourage people to donate items even if they believe they are of no value as we may use them for parts to combine with other equipment to make usable machines. We will also accept cash donations if that is the wish of the donor. We will hand out receipts for tax deduction purposes to those who desire proof of donation. All proceeds that come from this event will be donated to area students and any left over funds will be given to a local Pulaski county charity dealing with Covid-19 relief that will be determined at a later time. Equipment that cannot be repaired or used for parts will be recycled at an official electronics recycling location.

In order to ensure safety and success the number of student workers will be limited and proper PPE will be present and available, including: face masks, face shields, cleaning wipes, and isopropyl alcohol. After the equipment is gathered we will disinfect the devices and store them in the ACM facility on campus.

The equipment will be assessed for functionality and we will make any repairs deemed appropriate. Then we will wipe all storage devices and install fresh operating systems so that users will have little to no setup required. We will make the devices available at first to UA Little Rock students, but if the resources outpace the demand then we will reach out to other local universities and schools.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Stewart