INFO1010
Personal and Professional Development
October 2011

Professional Ethics
Su White

Revisions for 2009

- Need 100+copies of BCS Code of Conduct
- Boxes for handback at the end of the class
- Do the activity first - maybe??

Ethics: a definition

**Ethics:
"The science of morals;
the department of study
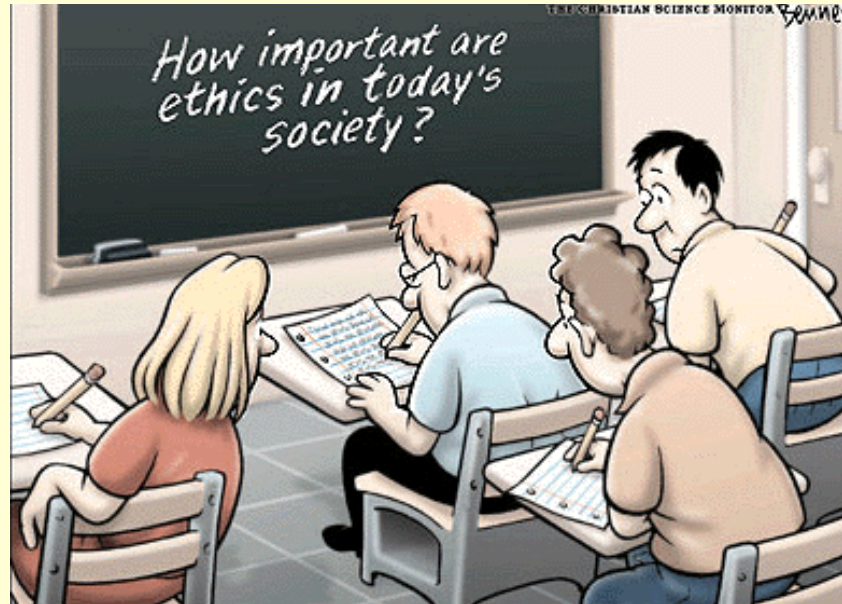concerned with the principles
of human duty".
OED**

Seeing with new eyes

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new lands, but in seeing with new eyes."

– Marcel Proust

"How important are ethics in today's society"?

**From Pepperdine University
Graziadio School of Business and Management**

"Buster you do your job and I'll do mine"

IET ethics article http://www.iee.org/

How this lecture is structured

Style

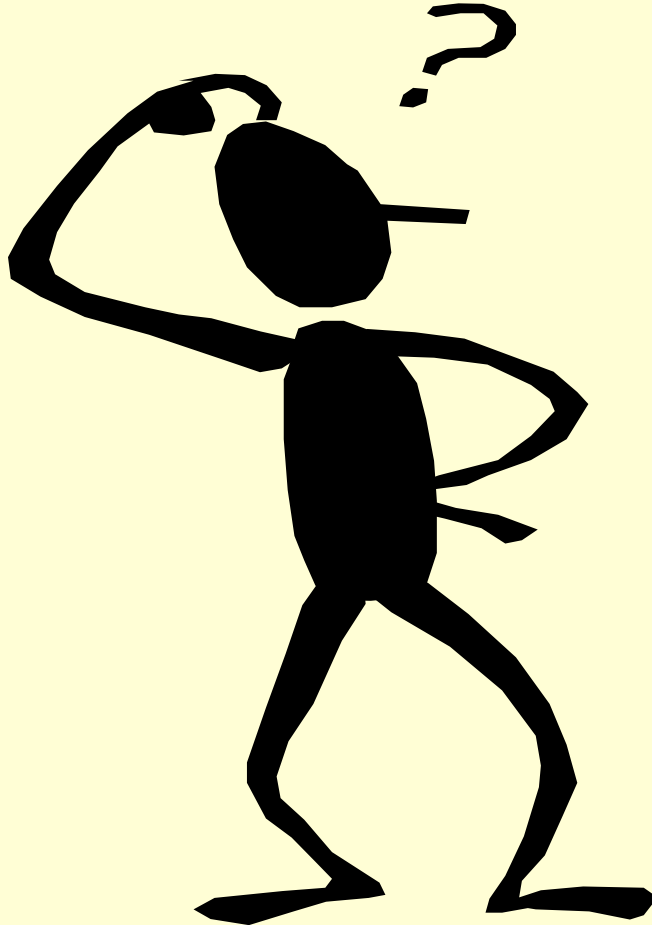- Mostly Practical
  - Thinking
  - Discussing
  - Feedback

Process

- Context
- Activities
- Reflection

Follow up

NB: The slides are designed to make up a set of notes. Appendix is further reading/references

TPS: Ethical Dilemmas

What sort of ethical dilemmas have you encountered?

Have you experienced people being unethical?

- At collect/school?
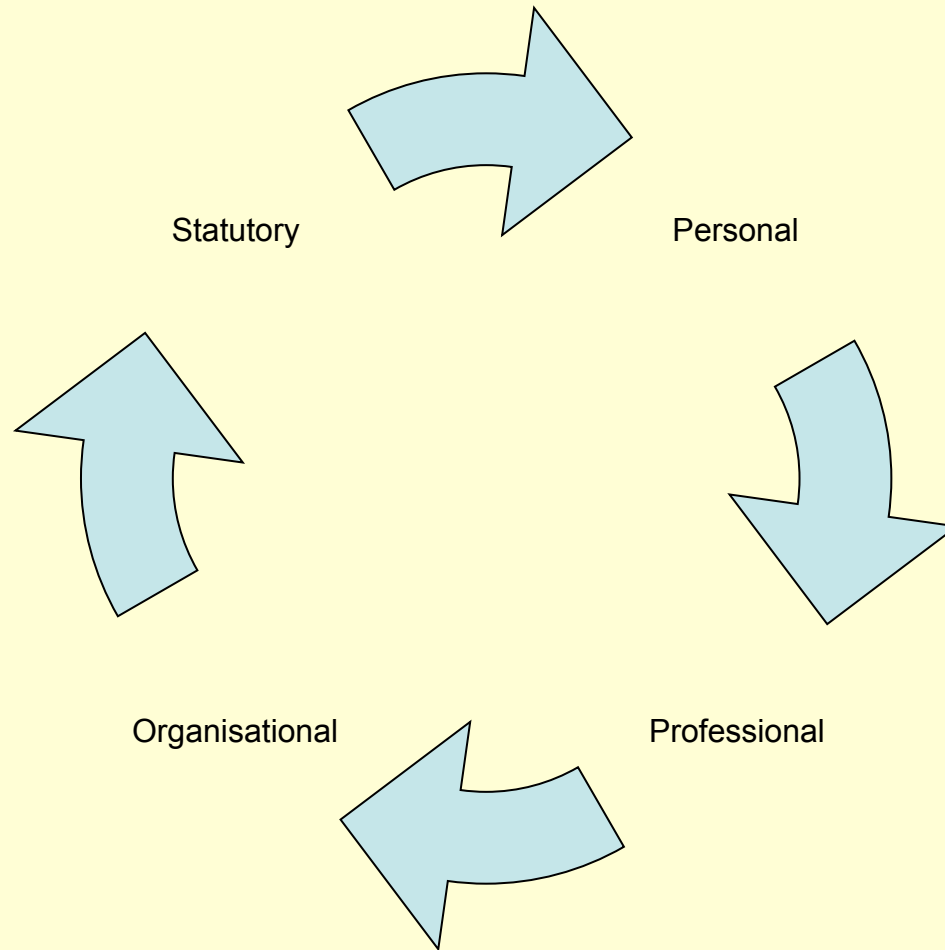
- On the sports field?

- In work?

- In public life?
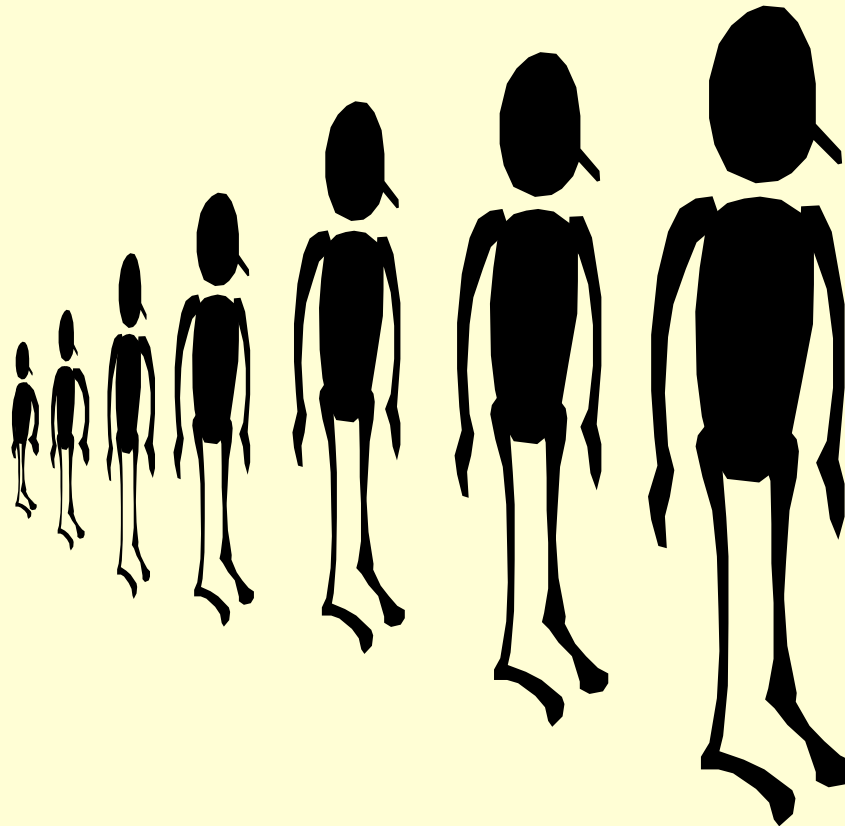
Why is this is relevant to you?

- Professional Accreditation
- Developing my own set of values
- Preparing for the future
- Informing my future behaviour
- ++

Ethical Values and Obligations

Statutory

Personal

Organisational

Professional

Do you follow the crowd?

BCS Code of Conduct

BCS code of practice: details

http://www.bcs.org/content/conMediaFile/393

Topics

- **1. Public Interest**

- **2. Professional Competence and Integrity**

- **3. Duty to Relevant Authority**

- **4. Duty to the Profession**

Activity

- In your group of three look through the copy of the code of conduct you have been given

On the acetates you have been given

- create a code for ECS undergraduates
  - Two of three groups will be asked to come forward and present their code

Who has led the thinking?

Plato
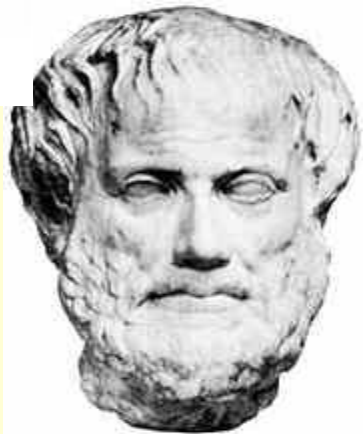
Aristotle
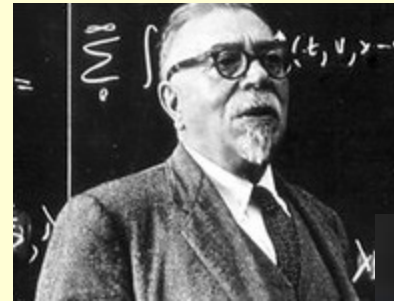
Weiner

Parker

Maner

What might ethics include?

Ethics: "The science of morals;
the department of study concerned with the principles of human duty". OED

Principles

Professional Behaviour

Ethics

Codes of Conduct

Fairness

Values

Standards

Integrity

Morals

Computer Law

Moral Codes

Justice

Moral Principles

Beliefs

Rights

Rules and Responsibilities

Professional Practice

Moral Values
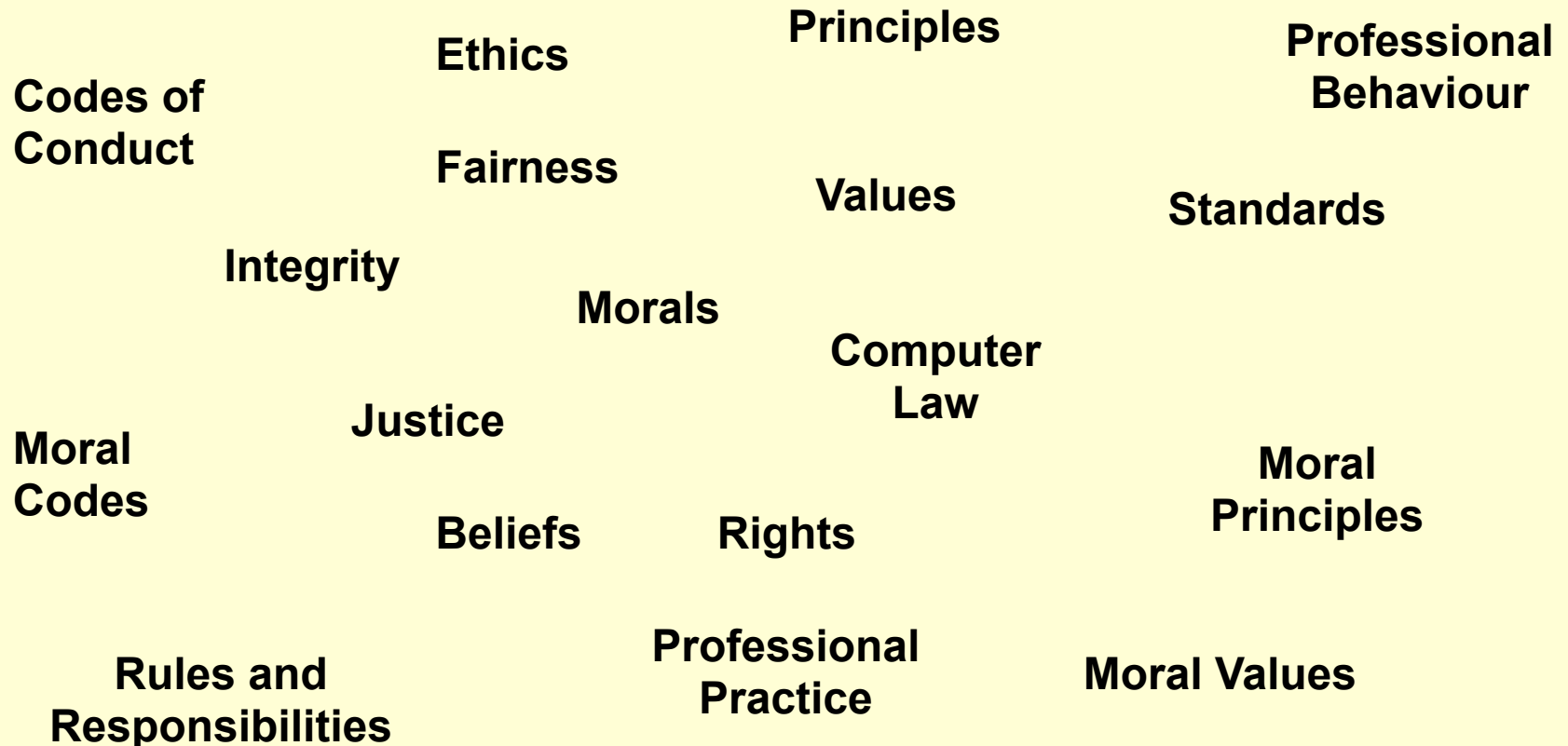
Consequences of poor ethics?

Phishing

Hacking and Cracking

Computer Crime

Invasion of Privacy

Identity Theft

Snooping

Incompetence

Whistle Blowing

disasters caused by computer failures

Unethical and Illegal use of Computers

law suits regarding software ownership

Scandals

Breach of confidentiality

computer-enabled crime

Breach of copyright

invasions of privacy via computer databases

Deceit

Misconduct

Source included
Bynum, Terrell, "Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview"

Examples of codes

Computer Ethics Institute

Providing a moral compass for the ocean of information technology

Home   About CEI   Events   Publications   CEI in the Press

Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics

Created by the Computer Ethics Institute
(Please Cite the Computer Ethics Institute if you quote us)

1. Thou Shalt Not Use A Computer To Harm Other People.

2. Thou Shalt Not Interfere With Other People's Computer Work.

3. Thou Shalt Not Snoop Around In Other People's Computer Files.

4. Thou Shalt Not Use A Computer To Steal.

5. Thou Shalt Not Use A Computer To Bear False Witness.

6. Thou Shalt Not Copy Or Use Proprietary Software For Which You have Not Paid.

7. Thou Shalt Not Use Other People's Computer Resources Without Authorization Or Proper Compensation.

8. Thou Shalt Not Appropriate Other People's Intellectual Output.

9. Thou Shalt Think About The Social Consequences Of The Program You Are Writing Or The System You Are Designing.

10. Thou Shalt Always Use A Computer In Ways That Insure Consideration And Respect For Your Fellow Humans.

See the *Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics* in PDF

The *Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics* were first presented in Dr. Ramon C. Barquin's paper, *"In Pursuit of a 'Ten Commandments' for Computer Ethics."*

Computer Ethics Institute · 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW · Washington DC 20036 · 202-797-6183
E-mail: info@computerethicsinstitute.org

Who might make a difference?

- Electronic Frontier Foundation

- Creative Commons

- SourceForge

- CopyLeft

- Professional Bodies

- …YOU?
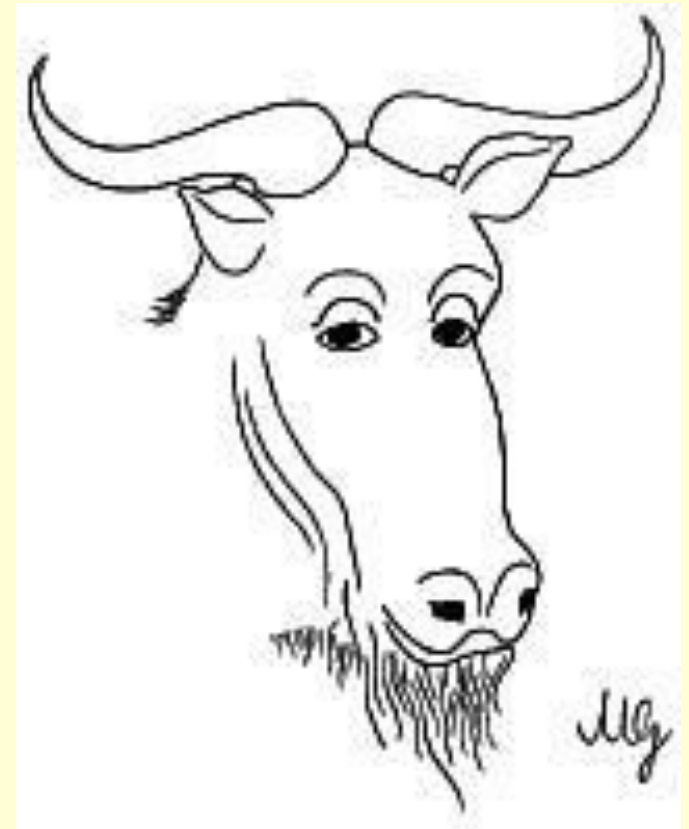
Suggested topics

- Computers in the Workplace
- Computer Crime
- Privacy and Anonymity
- Intellectual Property
- Professional Responsibility
- Globalization
- The Meta-ethics of Computer Ethics
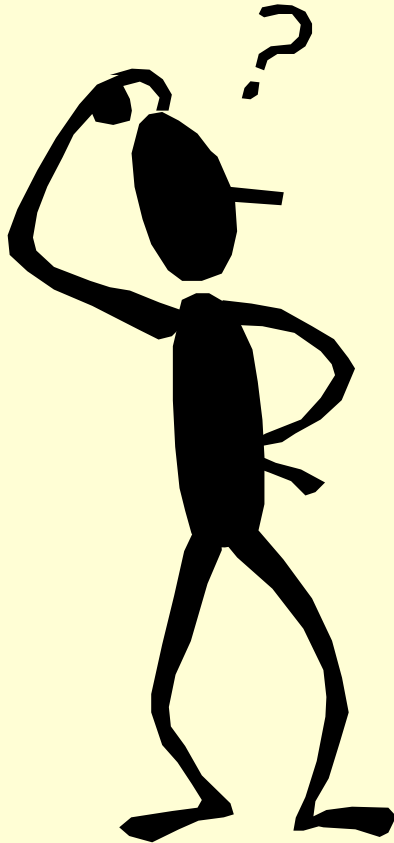
From - Bynum, Terrell, "Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview"

TPS: Examples of computer crime

Can you identify
three examples of ethical issues
in computing and IT

Activity

- In your group look through the copies of the code of conduct you have been given

On the paper you have been given

- create a code for ECS undergraduates

- I would like to be able to show off a couple of sets of codes to the rest of the students

- In previous years we have had some very good efforts ☺

Five Questions…

- **Did I practice any virtues today?**
  In *The Book of Virtues*, William Bennett notes that virtues are "habits of the heart" we learn through models--the loving parent or aunt, the demanding teacher, the respectful manager, the honest shopkeeper. They are the best parts of ourselves.

- Ask yourself, Did I cross a line today that gave up one of those parts? Or was I, at least some of the time, a person who showed integrity, trustworthiness, honesty, compassion, or any of the other virtues I was taught as a child?

- **Did I do more good than harm today?**
  Or did I try to? Consider the short term and long-term consequences of your actions.

- **Did I treat people with dignity and respect today?**
  All human beings should be treated with dignity simply because they are human. People have moral rights, especially the fundamental right to be treated as free and equal human beings, not as things to be manipulated, controlled, or cast away.

- How did my actions today respect the moral rights and the dignified treatment to which every person is entitled?

- **Was I fair and just today?**
  Did I treat each person the same unless there was some relevant moral reason to treat him or her differently? Justice requires that we be fair in the way we distribute benefits and burdens. Whom did I benefit and whom did I burden? How did I decide?

- **Was my community better because I was in it?**
  Was I better because I was in my community?
  Consider your primary community, however you define it--neighborhood, apartment building, family, company, church, etc. Now ask yourself, Was I able to get beyond my own interests to make that community stronger? Was I able to draw on my community's strengths to help me in my own process of becoming more human?

- **http://www.scu.edu/ethics/publications/iie/v8n1/everydayethics.html**
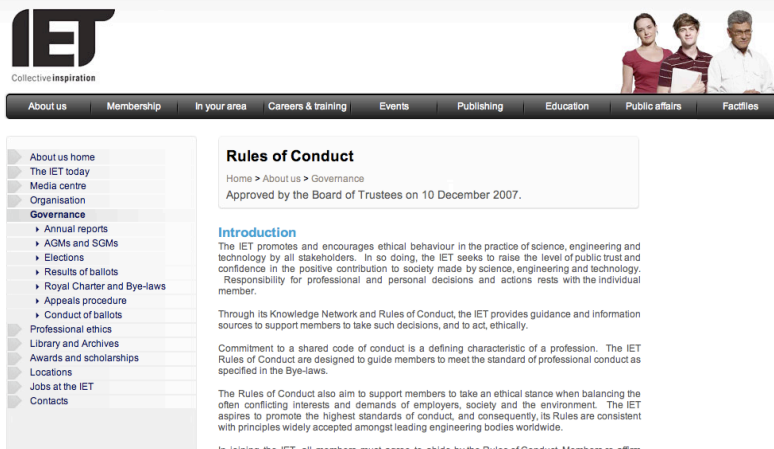
Thank you ☺

webliography

- If you are especially interested in this topic you may like to follow it up through the following web sites:

- The Internet Encyclopaedia of Philosophy

  http://www.iep.utm.edu/

- Research Center on Computers and Society

- http://www.southernct.edu/organizations/rccs/

- Computerethics.org

   http://www.computerethics.org - takes you to the site above!!

- Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics

  http://computerethicsinstitute.org/publications/tencommandments.html

Codes of Ethics...

IET Rules of Conduct

http://www.theiet.org/about/governance/rules-conduct/

BCS Code of Conduct and
Code of Good Practice

http://www.bcs.org/server.php?show=conWebDoc.1587

Actual references

Bynum, Terrell, "Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Winter 2001 Edition)*, Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2001/entries/ethics-computer/

Terrell Ward Bynum and Simon Rogerson, Eds., Computer Ethics and Professional Responsibility, Blackwell, 2004.

Want to know more?

Read the text…

- Computer ethics and professional responsibility Bynum, Terrell Ward and Simon Rogerson. Hartley Library Location QA 76.9M65 BYN

Play the game

- Oracle Education Foundation's ThinkQuest Computer Ethics
  http://library.thinkquest.org/26658/

Surf the Web

- Ethics on the World Wide Web
  http://commfaculty.fullerton.edu/lester/ethics/computer.html
- Code of the Geeks – a rather different take on Codes…
  http://www.geekcode.com/geek.html

Appendix

Additional
Materials

Books

The Real World of Technology (CBC Massey Lectures series) by Ursula Franklin

http://www.anansi.ca/titles.cfm?pub_id=58

http://www.onlineethics.org/codes/index.html

Computing and Moral Responsibility

Journals On-line

- ETHICOMP Journal. Publishes papers presented at ETHICOMP conference series, an international conference series of interest to those working in computer ethics.
- Ethics and Information Technology. Published by Klewer; peer-reviewed journal spanning a wide variety of issues and approaches to exploring in the intersection of moral philosophy and information / communications technology.
- Metaphilosophy Published by Blackwell; peer-reviewed journal that has been publishing articles in the area of computer ethics (including computing and responsibility) since the 1980's.
- Minds and Machines: Journal for Artificial Intelligence, Philosophy and Cognitive Science. Published by Klewer; peer-reveiwed journal that occasionally includes articles related to the ethics / moral responsibility of artificially intelligent computer systems.

- **Centers**
- Research Center on Computing and Society (at Southern Connecticut State University)
- Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility (at De Montfort University)
- Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility (CPSR)

- **Organizations**
- INSEIT: International Society for Ethics and Information Technology

- **Sources**
- Computing and moral responsibility

Research centre for computing and society

- h[ttp://www.computerethics.org](http://www.computerethics.org)

- Material on ethical decision making and case analysis. I think many computer ethics courses and textbooks tend to over do this part, offering far too many ethical theories and concepts that go way beyond what the students will ever need or use. I believe that Chapter 3 of the Bynum/Rogerson textbook gets it right (but, of course, I would say this, since I wrote Chapter 3!)

- Material on the concepts of professionalism and professional ethics. Don Gotterbarn's writings are terrific, including some that he has on-line on his SEERI web site:

  http://www-cs.etsu-tn.edu/seeri/index2.htm

  as well as his chapters (5 and 8) in the Bynum/Rogerson textbook.

- Materials on the concept of a professional code of ethics, as well as sample codes of ethics from professional organizations like ACM, BCS, ACS, IMIS, etc. See Part III of the Bynum/Rogerson textbook.

- Materials covering a representative sampling of "traditional" and "new" computer ethics topics like computer security (viruses, hacking, terrorism, etc.); ownership of intellectual property (e.g. software and open source, music and video files on the Internet, etc.); privacy (e.g., computerized profiles, data mining, matching, etc.); globalization (e.g. cultural conflicts, jurisdiction of laws across borders, international computing agreements, etc.), and so on. See Part IV of the Bynum/Rogerson textbook, as well as the textbook-related web site:

Textbook - Web Resources

From the web resources for Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview Part I:

- Bynum, T. W. "Computer Ethics: Basic Concepts and Historical Overview"

  http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/ethics-computer/

- Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility, De Montfort University, UK

  http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/index.html

- Research Center on Computing & Society, Southern Connecticut State University, USA

  http://www.computerethics.org

- Tavani, H. T. "Computing, Ethics and Social Responsibility: A Bibliography"

  http://cyberethics.cbi.msstate.edu/biblio/

Part II:

- The Association for Computing Machinery
  http://www.acm.org
- The Australian Computer Society
  http://www.acs.org.au
- The British Computer Society
  http://www1.bcs.org.uk
- Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility
  http://www.ccsr.org
- Professional Accountability Section of the Website of the Online Ethics Center
  http://onlineethics.org/topics/accountability.html
- Professionalism Section of the Website of the Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility
  http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/resources/professionalism

Part III:

- ACM Position Papers on Software Engineering and Licensing

  http://www.acm.org/serving/se_policy/papers.html

- Codes of Ethics links on the web site of the Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility

  http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/resources/professionalism/codes/

- Commentary on "The Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics" by N. Ben Fairweather

  http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/resources/professionalism/codes/cei_command_com.html

- The Software Engineering Ethics Research Institute at East Tennessee State University at Johnson City, TN, USA

  http://seeri.etsu.edu

Part IV: SECURITY

- Center for Education and Research in Information Assurance and Security (CERIAS) at Purdue University, Eugene H. Spafford, Director
http://www.cerias.purdue.edu/

- Computer Security Group, Cambridge University, UK
http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/Research/Security/

- Computer Security Institute
http://www.gocsi.com/

- Computer Security Research Center, London School of Economics
http://csrc.lse.ac.uk/

- The Risks Digest: Forum On Risks To The Public In Computers And Related Systems, ACM Committee on Computers and Public Policy, Peter G. Neumann, Moderator
http://catless.ncl.ac.uk/Risks

Part V: PRIVACY

- The Electronic Privacy Information Center
  http://www.epic.org

- The Information Commissioner of the United Kingdom
  http://www.dataprotection.gov.uk

- The Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner, Australia
  http://www.privacy.gov.au

- Privacy International
  http://www.privacy.org/pi/

- Privacy.net
  http://www.privacy.net

- Privacy.org
  http://www.privacy.org

Part VI: OWNERSHIP

- Electronic Frontier Foundation "Intellectual Property Online: Patent, Trademark, Copyright" Archive http://www.eff.org/pub/Intellectual_property
- Raymond, E. "The Cathedral and the Bazaar" a website on the open source movement http://www.firstmonday.dk/issues/issue3_3/raymond/
- Softward Ownership and Intellectual Property Rights: A Monograph (See especially the article "A Plea for Casual Copying" by Helen Nissenbaum) http://www.computerethics.org/resources/research/ intellectual_property/ownership_mono/ownership_contents.html
- Volkman, R. "Softward Ownership and Natural Rights" http://www.computerethics.org/resources/research/ intellectual_property/volkman_nat-rights.html
- World Intellectual Property Organization http://www.wipo.org

Part VII: GLOBALIZATION

- The Cyber Rights Working Group, Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility
  http://www.cpsr.org/cpsr/nii/cyber-rights/

- "The Global Culture of Digital Technology and Its Ethics," an abstract of a paper by Krystyna Gorniak-Kocikowska
  http://www.ccsr.cse.dmu.ac.uk/conferences/ccsrconf/ethicomp2001/abstracts/gorniak.html

- The Internet Society – an international organization for global cooperation
  http://www.isoc.org/isoc/

- UNESCO's Info-Ethics Program, The United Nations
  http://www.unesco.org/webworld/infoethics/infoethics.htm

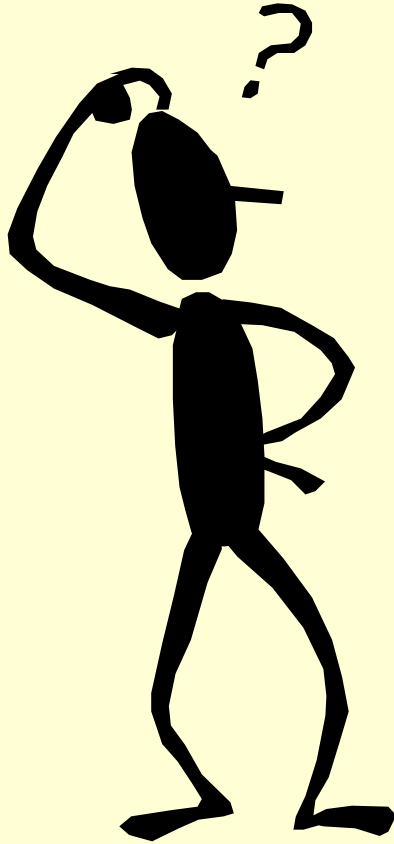# Activities

TPS: Ethical Dilemmas
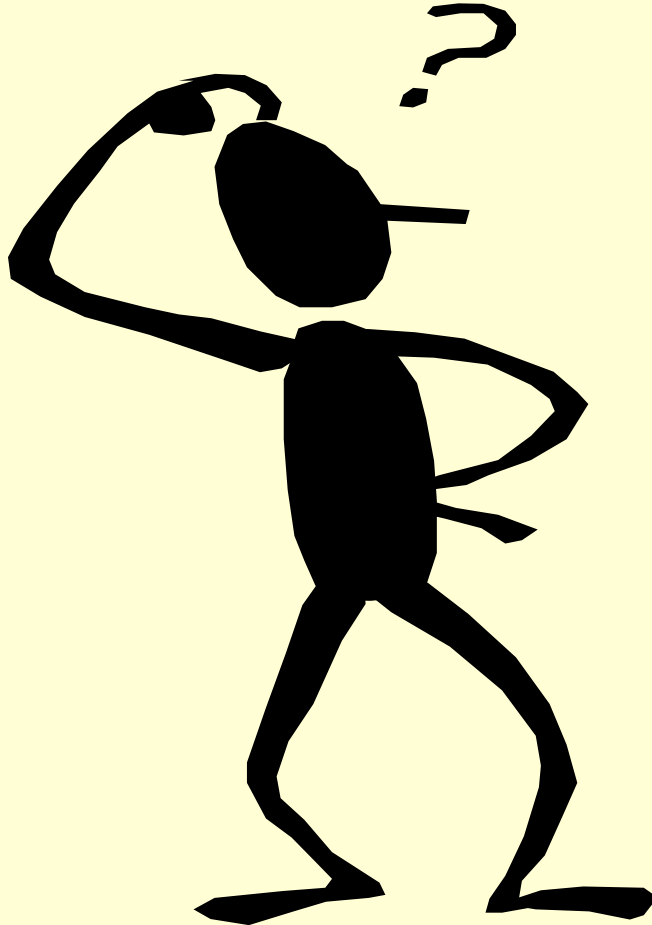
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Have you experienced people being unethical?

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- In work?

- In public life?

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