# ENG3004 Professional Dimension

# The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers

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香港工程師學會

Established by Ordinance in December 1975

This is to certify that *Ir CHAN Man Kit* 

was admitted as

Member

of the Institution on

4 May 2012

Witness our hands and seal

uchoy

President

Monitary Secretary

"Ir" pronounced as "engineer" is the abbreviation for the prefix of Corporate Members of the HKIE

Membership No

Date of Issue: 18 July 2012



Should engineers be active in their community? Why or Why not?

Should you be active in your community in future? Why or Why not?



#### Engineers without Borders





#### **Engineers without Borders**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3WODX8fyRHA





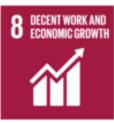
































#### What is a Professional?

- The term "professional" has its origins in the Latin verb profiteri
- It is used to indicate thoroughness and competence.
- Although modern usage stresses the role of learning and expertise it is important to recognize, in the Latin origins of the term, a strong ethical dimension that is still an essential aspect of professionalism.

#### What is a Professional?

- Professions and professionalism are central features of modern social organization.
- They provide an important way of managing specialization within society, although they are not the only way, or even necessarily the best.
- "Professionalism" is a claim to social standing and recognition, based on occupational identity.
- This élite status is seen as essential to recruiting, retaining, and motivating quality practitioners.

#### What is a Professional?

- Professions seek autonomy to regulate the activities carried out by their members.
- The outcome is a formal recognition by a profession of its members' responsibilities to society, commonly defined in a code of ethics.
- Membership of a professional body entails participating in the corporate life of the practitioners.
- Information and experience are shared and a moral esprit established.



#### Debate

 There is great diversity of opinion as to precisely which occupations are professions.

Are engineers a profession?

Are youtubers a profession?

#### Characteristics of Modern Professions

- The most useful questions may be: To what extent do various occupations exhibit the characteristics of professions?
- In what ways do occupations try to change as they try to become professionalized?
- What criteria for professions do they follow?
- Is there an ideal type on which aspiring professions can model themselves?
- Professionalism is much more a matter of degree.



#### Characteristics of a Profession

- Extensive period of intellectual training (e.g. to learn how to learn by yourself) usually obtained at a college or university.
- Possessing knowledge and skills vital to the wellbeing of the larger society.
- A monopoly or near-monopoly on the provision of professional services, and considerable control over professional education and the standards for admission into the profession.
- A high degree of autonomy in the workplace.
- A claim to be regulated by ethical standards.

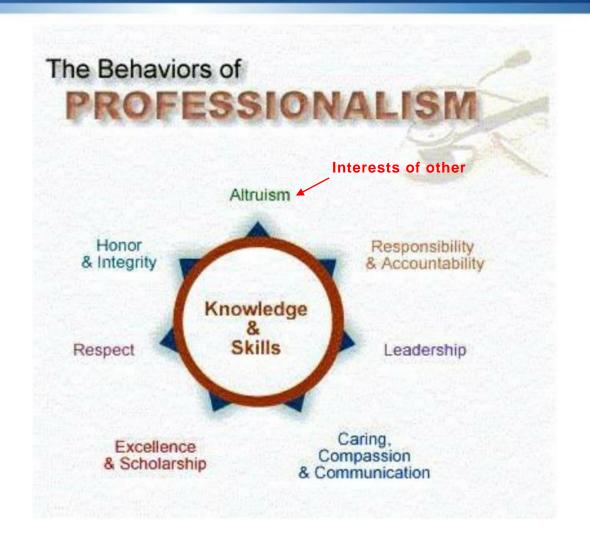


## Concept of Professionalism

- A profession cannot be composed of only one person. It is always composed of a number of individuals.
- A profession involves a public element.
- A profession is a way people earn a living and is usually something that occupies them during their working hours.
- Ethical standards.
- Must serve some morally praiseworthy goal.



### **Professional Dimension**



#### References

- Johnston, S. et al. (2000) Engineering and society: challenges of professional practice. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Harris, C. E. (Charles E. et al. (2009) Engineering ethics: concepts and cases. 4th ed. Belmont, Calif: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.