

ECE 321: Software Requirements Engineering

Assignment 1

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1 “Passing the word” Review

1.1 Main Contributions

- describes the importance of a manual, or written specification
- describes good manual style
- formal definitions
- the importance of meetings
- importance of multiple implementations
- product testing

1.2 Criticisms

Shouldn't be too bad...

1.3 Answers to questions

1.3.1 Good manual style

- It describes and prescribes every detail of what the user sees

- it refrains from describing things the user does not see
- For the sake of implementers it is important that the changes be quantized—that there be dated versions appearing on a schedule
- consistency
- precise language

1.3.2 Effective meetings

The first type of meeting the author claims is effective is a weekly half-day conference led by the chief architect, as well as all the architects, official representatives of the hardware and software implementers, and market planners. The second type of meeting is what the author refers to as an annual “supreme court session”, which lasts two weeks. In this type of meeting, the project manager leads, with members from the architecture group, the programmers’ and implementers’ architectural representatives, and the managers of programming, marketing, and implementation efforts joining.

1.3.3 Independent product-testing organization

In the author’s view, an independent product-testing organization acts as a “surrogate customer”, which allows for early detection of bugs and departure from the design. I mostly agree with this viewpoint, since programmers are human, and are prone to making mistakes like everyone else. Although it might slow development time, having a dedicated team for finding these flaws before deployment is important, so that the customer has a better overall experience.

2 “Requirements Engineering: The State of the Practice Review”

2.1 Main Contributions

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2.2 Criticisms

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2.3 Answers to questions

2.3.1 Most frequently used lifecycle model

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2.3.2 Prototyping

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2.3.3 Elicitation of users' requirements

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2.3.4 Informal modelling of requirements

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2.3.5 Are longer projects less often finished on time and within budget?

Yes/No one sentence answer ok cool.