**ACM Code of Ethics**

1. **General Ethical Principles**

Class discussion: For each item, can you give an example of how people today might be violating that principle and an example of how people today might be upholding that principle?

* 1. Contribute to society and to human well-being, acknowledging that all people are stakeholders in computing.

**Honoring: Providing free, open source information to a community (the Interent) to progress the community’s knowledge and showing respect for all in the community.**

**Violation: Disrespecting others in the community. Falsafying information. Exploiting vulnerabilities in a computer system for illegal personal benefit.**

* 1. Avoid harm.

**Honoring: Respecting other’s in the community. Offering to fix vulnerabilities when you come across it, rather than exploiting it or selling it to another party to exploit. Installing antivirus on computers. Restricting how much information you put online about yourself/teammates.**

**Violation: Performing social engineering hacks. Performing DDoS attacks on others (either as a joke or to inflict harm). Not logging out of computer when not around it.**

* 1. Be honest and trustworthy.

**Honoring: Be a team player, and look out for network security attacks that can exploit your team’s information. All your information is real.**

**Violation: Lying about age, name, occupation. Fake credentials that, if caught, would degrade the reputation of the company. Finding other ways to download blocked software when it is implicity not allowed.**

* 1. Be fair and take action not to discriminate.

**Honoring:** Respect other user’s personal information.

**Violation:** Cyberbullying and/or putting another user down. Phishing and other cyber attacks to someone who is not as good with technology.

* 1. Respect the work required to produce new ideas, inventions, creative works, and computing artifacts.

**Honoring:** Giving positive feedback to further the development of a new idea. Giving constructive criticism to ideas that aren’t the best, and a solution to fix them. Not putting someone down for having a “bad idea”.

**Violation:** Stealing someone’s idea and taking credit for it. Putting another user down for having an inferior idea.

* 1. Respect privacy.

**Honoring**: If a user’s computer is on, and they walk away from their desk, do not look through their computer or what they were searching for in the web browser.

**Violation**: Looking through a user’s personal space after hours (desk, cabinet, etc.) to find crucial information like passwords, addresses, checks, etc.

* 1. Honor confidentiality.

**Honoring:** What somebody has is their own, no matter what is. Do not look through someone’s work area attempting to find crucial personal information.

**Violation:** Attempting to hack into a user’s computer to find critical information such as bank information, credit card numbers, SSN, etc.

1. **Professional Responsibilities**

Class discussion: For each item, can you give an example of how people today might be violating that responsibility and an example of how people today might be upholding that responsibility? How do these responsibilities apply to your own careers?

* 1. Strive to achieve high-quality in both the processes and products of professional work.

**Honoring:** following models from professional organizations such as IEEE or ISSA. Thinking outside the box, documenting everything and the reasoning behind it (even if it does end up being wrong), and lots of testing in a controlled environment.

**Violation:** Not thoroughly analyzing products before they are placed publicly, not patching known errors, no documentation.

* 1. Maintain high standards of professional competence, conduct and ethical practice.

**Honoring:** Reward employees for working hard. Give positive feedback. Also create long and short terms goals, and plans to achieve them.

**Violation:** Toxic work environment. Not explaining how to conduct work properly. Little to no ambition to strive to be better.

* 1. Know and respect existing rules pertaining to professional work.

**Honoring:** Looking over the handbook put forward by HR. Observe how other employees conduct professional manners/work.

**Violation:** Badmouthing an employee who is looking to part ways with the company. Leaving false and bad reviews on another business when a deal does not go through or the way the company had planned it to go through.

* 1. Accept and provide appropriate professional review.

**Honoring:** Constructive criticism is key, be ready to accept that from upper management. Always document what you do and why you do it.

**Violation:** Aggression towards other employees/upper management when the feedback is not what you want to hear. Acting “childish” and threating to quit or do something malicious to the business.

* 1. Give comprehensive and thorough evaluations of computer systems and their impacts, including analysis of possible risks.

**Honoring:** following standard procedure from ISSA on how to properly perform a legal, thorough penetration test. Use social engineering tactics to see where weaknesses can be within employee’s knowledge of social engineering.

**Violation:** Choosing to exploit vulnerabilities and hack a company’s system for your own good.

* 1. Perform work only in areas of competence.

**Honoring:** Use keycards with access control to limit where employees are “inbounds” or “out of bounds”.

**Violation:** Lying to IT about needing access to a specific area, and exploiting a vulnerability for personal gain.

* 1. Foster public awareness and understanding of computing, related technologies and their consequences.

**Honoring:** Send emails to employees about new forms of cyberattacks. Keep the emails short so employees will actually read it and learn something. Maybe include a short, interactive quiz that employees must take to sign off that they have read the emails.

**Violation:** Not keeping employees informed about new cyberattacks. Not teaching employees how to properly use a computer, and what things are “ok” and what can be malicious.

* 1. Access computing and communication resources only when authorized or when compelled by the public good.

**Honoring:** Setting up emergency hotlines or anonymous ticket system for a public endangerment (serial killer on the loose, bad storm approaching).

**Violation:** Making a fake hotline/anonymous ticket system very similar to the legitimate one (sort of like a phishing attack) to steal people’s information.

* 1. Design and implement systems that are robustly and usably secure.

**Honoring:** Follow all standards by orgnazations such as CompTIA, ISSA, IEEE. Keep all software up to date, and stay on top of the newest types of cyberattacks, and how to defend against them.

**Violation:** Not securing all resources, leaving equipment such as routers, servers, firewalls, and PC’s without the most recent version of its software.

1. **Professional Leadership Principles**

Class discussion: For each item, can you give an example of how industry and government leaders might by upholding or violating these principles?

* 1. Ensure that the public good is the central concern during all professional computing work.

**Honoring:** California passed a law that a business who stores consumer’s personal data must notify those consumers in the event that a data breach occurs.

**Violation:**

* 1. Articulate, encourage acceptance of, and evaluate fulfillment of social responsibilities by members of the organization or group.

**Honoring:** Tech groups like Facebook have communities that user’s can join and communicate about a common topic.

* 1. Manage personnel and resources to enhance the quality of working life.

**Honoring:** Giving generous vacation time for employees. Good work ethic principles.

* 1. Articulate, apply, and support policies and processes that reflect the principles of the code.

**Honoring:** Management abides by the rules that they have set in place, and does not abuse their power.

* 1. Create opportunities for members of the organization or group to grow as professionals.

**Honoring:** encourage hard work and the reassure employees that there position is not a “dead-end” position.

* 1. Use care when modifying or retiring systems.

**Honoring:** deploy in a test environment on equipment not connected to the business’s actual systems.

* 1. Recognize and take special care of systems that become integrated into the infrastructure of society.

**Honoring:** Take care of the equipment and treat it as if it were your own. Contact IT if anything looks out of place.

1. **Compliance with the Code**

Any reactions to these two points?

* 1. Uphold, promote, and respect the principles of the Code.

**The code is something that should be followed to make sure all employees are working to their highest standards, being respected by and respecting other employees.**

* 1. Treat violations of the Code as inconsistent with membership in the ACM.

**The code has many good points and is there to protect the company and employees. I would not say it is inconsistent with the ACM.**