

## Short Write Up-3

### Instructions:

- This is an individual task.
- Read
  - a) Case 3.3: Whose Program is This? and
  - b) [ACM Code of Ethics](#)
- Consider the character of
  - Name: Ellen Pederson
  - Title: Programmer
  - Department: Information Systems
  - Organization: Apollo Group

Answer the following questions about the character of *Ellen Pederson*:

1. (1 point) Using the ACM Code of Ethics, identify at least 4 ethical values/professional responsibilities that apply to Ellen in this case study. Explain why is it important for Ellen to uphold each of these values/responsibilities?

Four ethical values/professional responsibilities that apply to Ellen, in this case, are being fair and taking action not to discriminate (1.4), striving to achieve high quality in both the processes and products of professional work (2.1), performing work only in areas of competence (2.6), and designing and implementing systems that are robustly and usably secure (2.9). All of these ethics were not in question for this case. The program worked very well and she is qualified as a programmer.

2. (1 point) Did Ellen uphold all ethical values/ professional responsibilities as a programmer? If not, explain which values were violated and how were they violated by Ellen?

The values/professional responsibilities Ellen didn't uphold are honoring confidentiality (1.7), being honest and trustworthy (1.3), contributing to society and human well-being, acknowledging that all people are stakeholders in computing (1.1), and respecting privacy (1.6). By reusing code from Apollo, she is giving their trade secrets to a different company. By doing this action, she is

proving to be untrustworthy to any company and proving that she does not respect the privacy of Apollo. Her main reason for doing all of this is because she didn't get full recognition, even though she got a bonus for her work. In doing this, she isn't considering all of the stakeholders that worked on the program.

3. (1 point) Name the stakeholder that owns the U-Pay System? Does Ellen's action to borrow U-Pay's source code for use at her new employer violate Copyright Law? Justify your answer.

Apollo is the stakeholder that owns the U-Pay System since Ellen made it for them to use. Ellen's action to borrow U-Pay's source code for her new employer violates copyright laws since the U-Pay system belongs to Apollo since they tasked Ellen to make it a reality. Furthermore, Ellen did not ask permission to reuse the source code.

4. (1 point) Suggest one action that Ellen could take to ensure ethical, professional and legal compliance with both employers (Apollo Group and its competitor). Justify your answer.

An action Ellen could've taken instead would be to not take the source code from Apollo. She could still recreate the code without using the source code Apollo now possesses and get the job done. This may take up more time, but this would then not violate copyright law.

5. (1 point) Is the action suggested in Question #4, a purely teleological action or a purely deontological one? Explain your moral calculus.

The action suggested in question #4 is a purely teleological action. This is because it takes potential consequences into consideration and avoids most possible consequences.

### **Submission:**

- Upload a PDF document on Blackboard.