CSCE 390: Professional Issues in Computer Science and Engineering

Short Write Up - 2

Task:

Read the Example Case: Censorship at New England University

Instructions: Answer the following questions for the case:

• List four (4) critical stakeholders in the case and identify an important right of each stakeholder (2 points)

The student Deans: The deans have a duty to watch over the computer lab.

The students: The students have a right to free speech.

The Troublemakers: The troublemakers have a right to free speech. (They are also students)

The NEU Faculty: The faculty have a right to property since this is their university.

 List and describe four (4) alternative courses of action that may be taken (to address the ethical dilemma) and determine the likely consequences of each proposed action for each stakeholder. (8 points)

<u>Solution #1</u>: Do nothing. This would lead to more troublemakers along with more complaints from the rest of the student body. Students harmed by this might fear going to the computer lab or they might transfer schools altogether. The reputation of NEU could become negative.

<u>Solutions #2</u>: Restrict access only. This would lead to the Deans having more work to do. The student body would act similarly as they did in the example case. The news could get involved.

<u>Solution #3</u>: Fully close the computer lab. This would lead to the Deans having less work. The student body would be angry, most likely causing the school's reputation to go down. The news would get involved. Less work would get done. There would be fewer opportunities for the students.

Solution #4: Send the troublemakers off with a warning. This could also include making the Deans more diligent in checking over the computer labs. This action would lead to more work for the Deans. More troublemakers could cause trouble, but this would be addressed by the Deans and not be seen by the rest of the student body. The news would likely not get involved as much. The student body would be happy with the result.

 $\textbf{Submission:} \ \ \textbf{Upload your solution} (\textit{in PDF format}) \ \textbf{on Blackboard}.$