My firm belief in the existence of computing ethics beyond legal framework and technical boundaries solidified through an  analysis of drone privacy cases because the field requires predictive assessment of outcomes and individual protection. According to the 2018 guidance from the Association for Computing Machinery the organization establishes that ethical computing practices consist of two  fundamental components which include harm prevention and privacy protection. The developers of these drones  violated essential ethical standards by allowing surveillance activities to occur without user authorization.

Even though I did not receive  any direct responses to my post, Fahad’s Rogue Services analysis provided a beneficial comparison. He demonstrated  that dismissing ethical duties for service continuity places healthcare users in substantial danger. This new perspective led me to  examine how drones that seem harmless today might become surveillance devices through unnoticeable changes. The study of  “Privacy by Design” practices has helped me grasp the value of technical and governance-level safeguards according to Hou  and colleagues (2024).

The 2022 BCS Code of Conduct puts public interest ahead of legal requirements. Professional ethics by BCS follows GDPR principles through the need for clear consent when processing personal data. My recent research suggests that ethical implications can be upheld by respecting legal limits and implementing the necessary design adjustments.

In 2019 Zuboff issued a warning about the acceptance of surveillance systems which weaken the self-determination of  individuals. Through her work I learned about how drones built for positive purposes can become tools to gradually reduce  civil freedoms. The research of Mittelstadt and co-authors (2016) demonstrates that ethical reasoning should  be present from the start of the design process which has become a fundamental guideline for me.

My learning  experience from this course has demonstrated that computer professionals need to exceed their coding responsibilities. The responsibilities of ethical  behavior require people to predict outcomes and establish protective measures while providing clear user communication. The knowledge gained from  this course will become the foundation of my professional practices in all technical and leadership positions to follow.

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