

Subject: Notes on EC discussion of 10/27 re SWECC

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From: "Dennis J. Frailey" <d-frailey@ti.com>

To: Dennis J Frailey <d-frailey@ti.com>

Date: 10/27/98

Participants:

Dennis Frailey
Joe Turner
Barbara Simons
Joe DeBlasi
Pat Ryan

Council Endorsed Code of Ethics for SWE
Council Approved SWECC with Amendments
SW Eng as a Professional Computing Discipline
Sponsoring Organizations may propose amendments
Sponsoring Organizations shall assign someone to
each project committee

Concerns raised in many areas:

(The indication was that if council is not happy, they are prepared to withdraw and/or fight undesired outcomes)

- fundamental exams and how they would affect undergraduate curriculum (example: thermodynamics; differential equations)
- many believe software engineering is part of computer science
- we must work to convince licensers that traditional engineering is not the basis for software engineering
- if we are not in this, EE will define this and this is the only reason we are in it
- Council wants representatives to strongly present this position and wants the lead representative to understand and present these concerns
- Council wants to be kept informed of progress and to have the opportunity to voice concerns to their representatives
- Council wants constant contact and frequent briefings
- Objectives varied and - come from different quarters
- State of uneasiness was uniform
- It is important that Council be kept informed of what is happening - In order to keep ACM behind this we must keep Council informed - Attend next Council meeting and others as needed - Let people know when there is an issue to report - periodic (monthly) report to Council - Web site within ACM on this subject (work with Pat Ryan)

(closed) - with links to public web site People are concerned that SWE has been predefined as Engineering Engineering license model does not fit the development of software - fundamental exam - requiring long practice before license leads to being out of date - exam model doesn't fit the rapid change paradigm Keep Council in the loop on the BOK issue Concern about the need to keep the BOK up to date - BOK web page vs draft BOK (need more copies for Council) Concern about grandfathering via PE (PEs can define SWE even if they don't understand SWE) - the software that killed people (sigma 25 x ray machine) was produced by a licensed engineer Years of experience criteria for licensing (too old = too out of date) - Continuing education is a very strong need due to rapid change of the field Consideration given to product certification vs individuals - Fran Allen - individual license does not assure that the product works - Example: SEI CMM levels of maturity and good practice - Standards are a part of this Need to gauge industry support for licensing - Funding is one measure - Others? Is SWECC exclusively to deal with Texas situation? - Is ACM promoting SW Engineering Licensing - Texas situation is a catalyst that forces action - Are we giving away the framework? - Body of Knowledge should be the way we influence this in the right direction - This does not mean endorsing the process - IEEE model vs EE Eng exam - Responsibility / possibility of our own positions Council wants to be certain that Council's representative maintain a balanced viewpoint - don't trash it all but don't just buy in to licensing concept -reserve the option of not supporting this David Wise (council member at large) concerns: - some states have laws defining where engineering depts can exist -sw eng should be teachable outside of engineering schools - access to accreditation should be available regardless of such terminology - proposals would require PE licenses to teach engineering design so must deal with this Consider the three people - can they represent this point of view - D)F: collective view will be presented and council will have a say

- council position is often not unanimous
- good communication is needed to avoid long, drawn out council meetings

- Mark Ardis:
 - Ardis represents the views, in my opinion - Linda Northrup:
- Broad understanding

Dennis J. Frailey d-frailey@ti.com
Senior SW Technologist 972-344-5607 (voice)
Raytheon Systems Company 972-344-5602 (fax)
DOR 655012 MSC 10