

From: IN%"miller@sangamon.edu" "Keith Miller" 14-MAY-1995 22:05:59.95  
To: IN%"CSBURNST%IITVAX1.BITNET@pucc.PRINCETON.EDU"  
CC:  
Subj: RE: working group deliberations

Return-path: <miller@sangamon.edu>  
Received: from JNET-DAEMON by minna.acc.iit.edu (PMDF V4.3-10 #5435)  
id <01HQDGLYYE2OCJZMT6@minna.acc.iit.edu>; Sun,  
14 May 1995 22:05:24 -0500 (CDT)  
Received: From PUCC(VMMAIL) by IITVAX1 with Jnet id 2931 for  
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14 May 1995 22:10:00 -0500  
Date: Sun, 14 May 1995 22:09:59 -0700 (CDT)  
From: Keith Miller <miller@sangamon.edu>  
Subject: Re: working group deliberations  
In-reply-to: <199505141913.AA238758816@eagle.sangamon.edu> from  
"CSBURNST%IITVAX1.BITNET@pucc.PRINCETON.EDU" at May 14, 95 02:07:00 pm  
To: CSBURNST%IITVAX1.BITNET@pucc.PRINCETON.EDU  
Message-id: <199505150310.AA068467399@eagle.sangamon.edu>  
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>  
> Dear Keith,  
> I am a faculty member at Illinois Institute  
> of Technology and co-director of the software  
> engineering program in our CS dept. I am  
> interested in the deliberations of the SEEP  
> task force, especially your group on reliability  
> and safety. Has there been any interaction within  
> that working group? If so are the e-mail transactions  
> or any other sort  
> available to interested parties? If yes can you  
> forward them to me. My research interests are in  
> testing and debugging.  
> Thanks,  
> Ilene Burnstein  
>

Our working group is not working yet, mostly because of me, partly because  
of the overarching task force. I am chair of a conference coming up in  
June, and that has claimed most of my time. I'll add you to my list, and  
you'll hear from me in June.

Keith

--  
Keith Miller  
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NECC '95 Program Chair  
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> Dear Dr. Howell,  
> I am interested in the deliberations of  
> the task force on "Software Engineering as  
> a Profession". In particular the sub-task force  
> on Defining the Code of Ethics and Professional  
> Standards. Has this committee begun to  
> communicate; if so, do you know how I can  
> get on the e-mail distribution list.  
> I am a faculty member at IIT and  
> am one of the co-directors of a master's  
> program in software engineering.  
> Thanks!  
> Ilene Burnstein  
>  
Dear Dr. Burnstein,

My apologies for the delay in a reply - I was out of the office much of Friday. I will forward to you some email messages related to your request - they also explain the intended role of the TCSE group relative to the actual working groups (joint IEEE/ACM). Please let me know if you have any other questions. I'm afraid that the TCSE discussion group has been very dormant - we don't get any information from the actual groups involved in the effort, so there isn't much to forward. I'd suggest contacting the working groups themselves to directly participate...

Thanks,  
Chuck

=====  
=====  
Chuck Howell                      The MITRE Corporation  
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Subject: Steering Committee Addresses

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----- End of Forwarded Message

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Subject: Professional Awareness in Software Engineering

[FYI, CCH]

Professional Awareness in Software Engineering  
PASE'96  
First Westminster Conference  
London, 1st-2nd February 1996

First Announcement and Call for Papers  
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## THE NEED FOR THE CONFERENCE -----

The conference has grown from the increasing concern of professional bodies and the computing industry that software engineers should be better equipped to meet the challenges of today's working practices. More than ever before, there is a need for the software practitioner to adopt a professional approach to deal with both technical advances and structural changes in the workplace.

Many of the practices in the software world harken back to the 'Dark Ages' of computing, when computer people were strange and wonderful to behold: they did not conform to business conventions in terms of dress or behaviour. They were mad boffins and therefore forgiven all eccentricities. Indeed, they were expected to be weird. Some of these expectations are still with us, the software professional is still viewed as different from other professionals. However, we increasingly have to work in teams, deal with clients and demonstrate that we can behave responsibly, that is, work in a professional manner, according to a professional code of conduct.

The main aim of this conference is, therefore, to help determine the attitudes that are required for a software engineer to succeed as a professional, and so help to avoid software disasters, improve quality, improve user confidence and raise the level of job satisfaction.

## TOPICS -----

The conference offers a cross-disciplinary platform, with an emphasis on:

\*Equal opportunities\* in particular combatting unconscious sexism, racism and discrimination against physically-disadvantaged groups.

\*Ethical and legal responsibilities and liabilities\* for example examining the appropriateness of existing professional codes of conduct.

\*The structure of the software industry as a profession\* including the

role of professional bodies, market testing and information technology practices, the problems faced by small companies and the impact of outworking on employment profiles.

\*Work practices\* including coping with methodology madness, the dangers of project management, the importance of software quality innovations and standards recognition.

## FEATURED SPEAKERS

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Featured speakers at this conference include:

Tom DeMarco: Observing that 'most often when organizations try to urge professionalism on their employees they are really asking for Uniformity.'

Fred Brooks: Author of 'The Mythical Man Month', reflecting on his not so mythical man years.

Frank Bott: Co-author of 'Professional Issues in Software Engineering' on the selling, marketing and procuring of software.

Elizabeth France: The Data Protection Registrar, debating whether software engineers help or hinder the protection of data.

## WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE ?

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All software professionals are invited to contribute and attend PASE'96. Contributions are welcome from programmers, analysts, engineers, testers, project managers, consultants, IT trainers, educators and researchers. In particular we encourage junior and senior practitioners to come and share their experiences of the software profession.

## CRITICAL DATES

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1st May, 1995:	Submission of extended abstracts (email preferred)
21st May, 1995:	Initial feedback on abstracts
1st Sept, 1995:	Final paper submission
1st Nov, 1995:	Notification of acceptance decision

## COST

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For registrations made before 1/1/96:	275.00
For registrations made after 1/1/96:	325.00
BCS members:	250.00
Students:	175.00

Prices include all conference documentation and refreshments.

## LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

-----  
Colin Myers, Conference Co-Chair, University of Westminster  
(email: colin@westminster.ac.uk)  
Tracy Hall, Conference Co-Chair, University of Westminster  
(email: hallt@westminster.ac.uk)  
Dave Pitt, AT&T Global Information Solutions  
Wendy Stokes, London Guildhall University

The conference sponsors include:

The British Computer Society  
AT&T Global Information Solutions

## INFORMATION

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For more information contact either of the conference Co-Chairs at:

School of Computer Science  
University of Westminster  
115 New Cavendish Street  
London W1M 8JS

Tel : 0171 911 5000  
Fax : 0171 911 5089

Email : paseconf@westminster.ac.uk

## REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW!

-----  
If you intend to attend or contribute to PASE'96 please provide the following information by email (paseconf@westminster.ac.uk):

Name:  
Job Title:  
Work Address:  
Telephone Number:  
Fax Number:  
Email:

Title of Proposed Contribution:

Names of other persons that you think may be interested in receiving more information about this conference:

----- End of Forwarded Message



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From: Elliot Chikofsky <CHIKOFSKY@neu.edu>

Subject: I am pursuing getting TCSE officially in the mix...

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Subj: Reorganization of the Steering Committee (long message)

For a couple of months the presidents of the Computer Society and the ACM have been looking for ways to structure the steering committee in a way that would better reflect the interest and participation of the ACM. Following a series of exchanges a proposal was made by Laurel Kaleda to Gwen Bell to streamline the steering committee and to include equal numbers of members appointed by the society presidents. The ACM has agreed to the general terms of the proposal and we are now moving to the new organization.

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STATUS:

This committee was created by the Board of Governors of the Computer Society last May and was asked to report at the November meeting of the BoG. This was accomplished and the four initial recommendations were accepted by the board. In November we were asked to initiate the implementation of the recommendations and report back at the next meeting (next Friday). The recommendations were:

- 1) Define the body of knowledge and recommended practices - we initiated a task force populated mostly with industry people, led by Patricia Douglas of IBM.
- 2) Define a code of ethics - we initiated a task force co-chaired by Robert Melford (CS) and Don Gotterbarn (ACM)
- 3) Define the curricula - we have agreement from Doris Carver (CS) and John Werth (ACM) to co-chair the task force. We did not have time to have an organizational meeting and besides, the spirit of the recommendation was to have this group track the "body of knowledge" task force. Doris and John are the heads of the "education boards" of the two societies and they have agreed to be stand-by until the other group starts producing some recommendations. Doris and John have agreed to join the "body of knowledge" task force so they will be up-to-speed when the time comes.

A fourth recommendation called for "definition of terms". This is probably better done by the three task forces since they are the ones who will identify the terms that need to be in the "glossary". Furthermore, there are various IEEE standards that might provide the bulk of the definitions, so there is not urgent need to have this as a separate "task force".

We have essentially accomplished our job and next Friday, at the BoG meeting I will report these activities. At that point the new

organization will kick in.

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NEW ORGANIZATION:

I would like to quote a paragraph from Laurel's letter to Gwen describing the new organization:

The members of the steering committee will include Mario who will continue as chair, a vice-chair (appointed by you as president of the ACM), and six members, three appointed by each society by whatever mechanism and for whatever terms the societies may choose. The steering committee may add additional members (such as the chairs of the task forces established by the steering committee) as ex officio, non-voting members of the steering committee. Mario may identify other details to be worked out, but these are the general guidelines under which we can get started.

Stu Sweben will be the Vice-chair appointed by the ACM. The other 6 appointments will be announced shortly.

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NO MEETING NEXT WEEK:

As you recall, a few weeks ago I asked who would be around new Monday in San Francisco, in case we needed to do some work on the report to be presented on Friday. In light of the restructuring, it is probably not necessary to have the meeting on Monday (only a handful of us could attend anyway.) The report will be short and sweet: the accomplishments outline above plus the plans produced by the two operating task forces.

Unless there is something urgent, let's call the meeting off. Those of us who are there could adjourn to the CS hospitality suite and have a toast to our great work :-)

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I want to thank all of you for your effort and your contribution to the profession. The new steering committee will be a very small body and its role will be to oversee the work of the task forces. The real fun work will be done by the task forces and I would invite all of you to continue your involvement by joining those groups that are closer to your personal interests.

Best regards,

Mario

----- End of Forwarded Message

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Subj: Press Release

This press release is being sent at the request of Robert Melford.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 1994

"COMPUTING ETHICS: WORLD'S TWO LARGEST COMPUTER  
PROFESSIONAL  
SOCIETIES JOIN FORCES IN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT"

Washington, DC, Rayburn House Office Building, Congressional Briefing, organized by Representatives George Brown (D-CA) and Edward Markey (D-MA), in cooperation with the National Computer Ethics and Responsibilities Campaign, (June 21, 1994) -- The world's two largest organizations of computing professionals, with a combined membership of more than one hundred and seventy-five thousand members (world-wide), have mounted a joint effort to establish internationally recognized standards for the professional and ethical conduct of software engineers. The Washington, DC based IEEE Computer Society (IEEE-CS), and the New York, NY based Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) recently established their joint task force on Software Engineering Ethics and Professional Practices (SEEPP) to "codify and document the software engineering profession's collective wisdom for resolving ethical conflicts," said Robert J. Melford, Computer Society Co-chair for the task force.

ACM Co-chair Dr. Donald Gotterbarn added, "this task force will focus both on 'Ethics' and 'Standards of Practice.' The latter will provide guidelines and recommended practices to help computing professionals meet their professional obligations to quality and higher care in difficult situations." Both Co-chairs went on to emphasize, "software engineering is a profession whose activities are trans-national; the SEEPP task force must also address cultural, organizational, and national characteristics that bear on a global definition of Software Engineering Ethics and Professional Practices."

The SEEPP task force is approaching the one-third mark of an aggressive eighteen month schedule to complete its work. Computing professionals from throughout the world are being invited to participate in the standards' development process.

Melford and Gotterbarn explained that the task force is using "a

*Handwritten notes:*  
- SEEPP  
- Melford  
- Gotterbarn  
- IEEE-CS  
- ACM  
- National Computer Ethics and Responsibilities Campaign  
- 10/10/94

recognized methodology for developing and documenting the profession's consensus, in an international venue." The methodology is derived from the IEEE Computer Society's extensive work in developing and establishing internationally recognized standards for the design, test, construction, and operation of computer hardware and software, and for the management of software engineering projects. ACM's recent work in developing and disseminating a Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for its members also should be of great value to the task force. The task force has organized eight different Standards Working Groups, which are charged with addressing specific areas of ethical interest and concern.

Melford and Gotterbarn stated that the working groups on Privacy, Security, Intellectual Property, Professional Competence, Professional Relationships, and Social Justice address "issues and principles." Gotterbarn explained that the eighth working group, Institutional Support, will address such things as how to establish and operate a "Hot Line" where software engineers could query recognized experts about ethical problems they were encountering. Both Chairmen also noted that the task force could establish additional working groups to address other areas of concern if there was sufficient volunteer interest.

The SEEPP task force is part of a larger project, the Joint IEEE-CS/ACM Steering Committee for the Establishment of Software Engineering as a Profession. The Steering Committee has also established two other task forces: the first one to review academic curriculum; and, the second one to identify the body of knowledge and recommended practices. Dr. Mario Barbacci and Prof. Stuart Zweben are Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively.

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From: Elliot Chikofsky <CHIKOFSKY@neu.edu>  
Subject: SE Profession

===== CALL FOR PARTICIPATION =====

----> PLEASE POST FREELY AND WIDELY <----

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING:  
ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

JOINT IEEE COMPUTER SOCIETY / ACM PROJECT  
WORKING GROUPS FORMING

17 October 1994

Dear Computing Professional,

The IEEE Computer Society and the ACM, the world's two largest organizations of computing professionals, with a combined membership of more than one hundred and seventy-five thousand members (worldwide) have established a Joint Steering Committee for the Establishment of Software Engineering as a Profession. This steering committee has established three task forces to accomplish their mission. One task force is identifying the body of knowledge and recommended practices, and another task force is addressing educational issues. Our task force on Software Engineering Ethics and Professional Practices (SEEPP) is tasked with documenting and codifying standards of ethical and professional practices for Software Engineers. We invite your participation in this task. You do NOT need to be a member of either society in order to participate.

#### 1.0 SCOPE

These standards shall document generally accepted principles for identifying and resolving ethical conflicts relevant to the discipline of software engineering.

Consideration shall be given to the responsibilities and obligations of the Software Engineer to peers and laypersons, employer, customer(s), the profession and society/humanity. Additionally, consideration shall be similarly given to the obligations and responsibilities of these various entities towards the Software Engineer.

#### 1.1 GLOBAL APPLICATION

The SEEPP task force recognizes that the design, development and application of software often transcend national boundaries. We feel that it is vitally important that the global computing community have the means to insure that this project produces a product which is as reflective of the global computing community's wisdom as can be reasonably achieved. The participation of individuals from throughout the world is important to achieving this goal.

These standards are intended to document the consensus of the

global software engineering community. From time to time, consensus on an issue may not be clearly recognized. Accordingly, these standards shall also document various recommended practices and guidelines when no clear consensus can be established.

## 2.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of the SEEPP task force is to document the international consensus for minimally acceptable ethical/professional responsibilities and obligations of Software Engineers.

## 3.0 ORGANIZATION

Working groups are being formed to address specific areas of concern. Eight different subject areas are distinguished so far, as described below. Should additional subject areas be identified, additional working groups may be established.

Working groups	Illustrative issues/topics
=====	=====
Institutional Support Chair: Michael McFarland mcfarlan@bcuhs2.bc.edu	"Experts Hotline," peer review panels, conflict resolution, etc. for practicing software engineers
Intellectual Property Chair: Suzanne Weisband sweisband@bpa.arizona.edu Vice Chair: Steven Barber sbarber@panix.com	ownership of: code, algorithms, systems design and specifications, project control methods, test methods, quality improvement models, etc.; articulate areas that go beyond the law, foster understanding by sharing values and ideals, what issues and norms are important for SE, how to carry out ethical activity (foundational basis of laws and treaties, why obey laws)
Professional Competence Chair: Donald Gotterbarn d.gotterbarn@computer.org	truth about skill, obligation to keep current, truth about code, what should be produced? (end-use consequences), keep staff current, appropriate knowledge base, non- generalization of expertise, educational issues: certification, registration, licensure
Professional Relationships Chair: Joyce Currie Little jclittle@toe.towson.edu	communications (professional to professional and professional to layperson or society, professional to employer, professional to customer, professional to electronic community), support for

"whistle blowers," obligations to  
foster responsible behavior amongst  
non-professionals

Privacy monitoring (workplace, everyplace),  
Chair: Patrick Sullivan confidentiality, data aggregation,  
psullivan@brook.edu falsification or communication of a  
"digital persona" out of context,  
misuse of data, relationship of  
electronic privacy to other policy  
issues, e.g., computerized medical  
records and health care reform,  
etc.

Reliability & Safety contracts, reliability thresholds  
Chair: Keith Miller in contracts, testing, risks, user  
miller@eagle.sangamon.edu centered design, truth in  
advertising, informed consent for  
buyers, financial support for  
improved quality, quantifying  
quality.

Security data integrity, statutory  
Bob Melford violations, encryption, malicious  
r.melford@computer.org programming (viruses, etc.), system  
administrator's responsibility,  
encryption

Social Justice responsibility to end use, equity  
Chair: Suzanne Weisband of access, allocation of resources,  
sweisband@bpa.arizona.edu computing for the disabled, "de-  
skilling" (computer takes over a  
person's job)

### 3.1 PARTICIPATION

Participation is open to all individuals who are directly  
and materially affected or interested in these issues.

Members of the international computing community are particularly  
encouraged to participate.

#### 3.1.1 WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Individuals may participate in as many working groups as  
they desire.

#### 3.1.2 ORGANIZATIONAL/INSTITUTIONAL PARTICIPATION

If organizations desire to send an organizational  
representative, they shall be accommodated. Their inputs will be  
valued and processed as would any other input. However, no  
organization shall be permitted a veto power over results that  
reflect the consensus of the concerned professionals in the  
field.



### 3.1.3 WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE COMPLETE THE APPLICATION AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT  
AND E-MAIL IT TO SEEPP-CFP@COMPUTER.ORG, BEFORE 5-NOVEMBER-1994.

\*\*\*\*\*

We are organizing the working groups on 12 November 1994.

### 3.1.4 EXPENSES

Participation is voluntary. Each individual is responsible for all expenses incurred to support his/her participation. Many institutions provide financial support for their volunteers.

### 3.2 "OFFICIAL" IEEE STANDARD

Working groups will operate according to the procedures specified for IEEE Standards (see Governance, below). However, working groups will NOT be initially chartered by the IEEE Computer Society's Standards Activities Board. (If the working groups were so chartered, individuals in several countries would be required to receive their government's approval for participation.)

### 3.3 GOVERNANCE

The conduct of each working group shall follow the same written procedures that govern internationally recognized IEEE Standards Activities. These procedures specify that prompt consideration should be given to the written views and objections of all participants. Objectors should be notified of the disposition of an objection and the reasons therefor. Unresolved objections and the associated reasons should be reported to the entire working group's membership. The conclusions of the group should be supported by a consensus of the membership. (This would imply a ballot on the final products, probably run as IEEE Draft Standards ballots are currently run.)

### 3.4 E-MAIL & MEETINGS

Working group business is expected to be primarily conducted via e-mail and computer mediated conferencing. From time to time, a working group may also conduct face to face or teleconference meetings. These meetings should be conducted in a manner which facilitates attendance by as many members as possible.

### 4.0 INTERNET ACCESS

Each working group member should have a valid Internet e-mail account. The member should also be prepared to obtain access to other Internet applications such as FTP, TELNET, Gopher, WAIS WWW/MOSAIC, etc.

### 5.0 COMPLETION

Working groups shall deliver their product to the SEEPP task force before November 1995.

6.0 THANK YOU!

We hope that we have piqued your interest and that you will join us in this endeavor!

Sincerely,

Robert J. Melford      Donald Gotterbarn, Ph.D.  
IEEE-CS Co-Chairman      ACM Co-Chairman  
Joint IEEE-CS/ACM SEEPP Task Force  
r.melford@computer.org      d.gotterbarn@computer.org

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IEEE-CS/ACM  
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING ETHICS  
AND  
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(SEEPP)

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Please place an "X" next to each working group that you wish to join:

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Please tell us what your Category of Interest is in this project:

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**IMPORTANT -- Please tell us about your specific interests and how  
your experience will aid this project.**

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