

Subject: Council Motions

Date: Tue, 18 May 1999 17:28:37 -0400

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Council Actions, May 16, 1999

MOTION: ACM is opposed to the licensing of software engineers at this time because ACM believes that it is premature and would not be effective at addressing the problems of software quality and reliability.

ACM is, however, committed to solving the software quality problem by promoting R&D, by developing a core body of knowledge for software engineering, and by identifying standards of practice.

[Unanimous]

MOTION: When requested ACM may advise boards and other agencies interested in the licensing of software engineers on the state of the body of knowledge and best practices for software engineering. Such interaction will not imply ACM's endorsement of licensing or involve preparation of associated materials such as tests.

[13 For, 0 Opposed, 1 Abstention]

MOTION: Council will form an ACM SWECC Oversight Committee. This Oversight Committee will oversee the development of the software engineering body of knowledge and ACM's participation in SWECC.

[11 For, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstention]

MOTION: ACM strongly supports the position taken at the May 8, 1999 joint meeting of the Canadian Deans of Science and the Canadian Deans of Engineering and Applied Science, namely to strongly affirm that the Software Engineering discipline is a field where both science and engineering have important contributions to make. Moreover, the ACM Council supports the call of the joint group of deans on all parties to collaborate in resolving issues involved in the offering of academic programs related to SWE through cooperation and dialogue.

[Unanimous]

MOTION: ACM Council expresses its gratitude and thanks to the Blue Ribbon Panel on Software Engineering and to the co-chairs, Frances Allen and Paula Hawthorn, for their guidance and recommendations.

[Acclamation]