

To: Ed Mechler, CCP, 76105,3332
CC: Don96 Gotterbarn, INTERNET:GOTTERBA@SEASVA.GWU.EDU
From: Don Gotterbarn, INTERNET:gotterba@seasva.gwu.edu
Date: 10/8/96, 8:10 AM
Re: Re: Ethics Outline

Sender: gotterba@seasva.gwu.edu
Received: from franklin.seas.gwu.edu (franklin.seas.gwu.edu [128.164.9.2]) by hil-img-3.compuserve.com (8.6.10/5.950515)
id IAA18089; Tue, 8 Oct 1996 08:07:13 -0400
Received: from seas.gwu.edu (root@felix.seas.gwu.edu [128.164.9.3]) by franklin.seas.gwu.edu (8.7.1/8.7.1) with ESMTP id IAA00898 for <76105.3332@compuserve.com>; Tue, 8 Oct 1996 08:07:09 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from buster.seas.gwu.edu (buster [128.164.25.50]) by seas.gwu.edu (8.7.1/8.7.1) with ESMTP id HAA14333 for <76105.3332@COMPUSERVE.COM>; Tue, 8 Oct 1996 07:51:07 -0400 (EDT)
Received: (from gotterba@localhost) by buster.seas.gwu.edu (8.6.12/8.6.12) id HAA11217; Tue, 8 Oct 1996 07:51:07 -0400
Date: Tue, 8 Oct 1996 07:51:07 -0400 (EDT)
From: Don Gotterbarn <gotterba@seasva.gwu.edu>
X-Sender: gotterba@buster
To: "Ed Mechler, CCP" <76105.3332@compuserve.com>
cc: gotterba@seasva.gwu.edu
Subject: Re: Ethics Outline
In-Reply-To: <199607180129.VAA06165@buster.seas.gwu.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.HPP.3.90.961008065612.10994C-100000@buster>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Ed,

I would like to talk with you. I have gone through my records and could not find your telephone number. Please email it to me.

The "code" has caused some expected reactions from some members of the steering committee. In an earlier note I mentioned the need to distinguish between codes of ethics- aspirational, codes of conduct- more specific, and codes of practice- things that you can be taken to court for failing to do. These distinctions need to be made in the code. When we wrote the ACM code we alluded to this distinction in a preamble and then gave specific practice examples in a secondary document.

The ACM code went through several revisions and polishing processes before it was finally accepted. Drafts were circulated to several congingencies and surveys weere taken, etc. It was an arduous task, but it was worth it and we came out with a better product. I have recieved some email for the steering committee already giving input on the code. I am forwarding them to you, but we need to talk about their concerns before you respond.

I am circulating the code to the other working group leaders of SEEPP for their groups comments. They are bright people and will bring some additional insights to the code. I have labeled the current code version 1.0, expecting to modify it in the light of future input. I am also calling it a preliminary version. I know how much work you have put into this, but calling it a preliminary version reduces the political fallout from people who will be insulted because they were not consulted or asked to approve the "final version". We almost lost the ACM Code of Ethics because of things like this. There is too much good work in what you have done to expose it to these kinds of risks.

I look forward to talking to you about this.

best regards,
don