

Report to the Board of Governors of the
IEEE Computer Society
From the Steering Committee for the
Establishment of Software Engineering as a Profession

San Francisco, March 4, 1994

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Background

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.

Status of activities:

This steering 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 already 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 ready 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 an urgent need to have this as a separate "task force".

Next Steps:

-We have essentially accomplished the four recommendations and we are now ready to reorganize the Steering Committee. The new committee will oversee the activities of the existing task forces and will initiate other activities as appropriate.

The following quotation from President Kaleda to President Bell describes 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 Zweben will be the Vice-chair appointed by the ACM. The other six appointments will be announced shortly. We expect to present a more detailed report describing the initial results from the task forces to the Board of Governors at the June meeting.

Steering Committee

"Defining the Software Engineering Profession"

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Ex-officio member of the steering committee
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<div> <div>Task Force</div> <div> <i>"Defining the Body of Knowledge and Recommended Practices"</i> </div> <div> <div>Chair:</div> <div>Patricia Douglas'</div> </div> <div> <div>group email:</div> <div>se-practices@sei.cmu.edu</div> </div> <div> <div>Mario Barbacci</div> <div>Fletcher Buckley</div> <div>liot Chikofsky</div> <div>barn* . Bill Everett</div> <div>. Gary Ford</div> <div>; . Dan Paulish</div> </div> <div> <div>ice-chair) . Ken Shumate</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Task Force</div> <div> <i>"Defining the Code of Ethics and Professional Standards"</i> </div> <div> <div>Robert Melford*c</div> <div>(redhead@vnet.ibrn.com)</div> </div> <div> <div>group email:</div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div>group email:</div> <div>se-ethics@sei.cmu.edu</div> </div> <div> <div>• Sam Schappelle</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>Task Force</div> <div> <i>"Defining the Curriculum"</i> </div> <div> <div>Chairs:</div> <div> <div>(r.melford@ieee.org) (carv</div> <div>Don Gotterbarn,*A</div> <div>(gotterba@ Qwe</div> <div>etsmeast-tern-st.edu)</div> </div> <div> <div>se-curriculum@</div> </div> <div> <div>' Mao Barbacci</div> <div>' Keith Miller</div> <div>• Joyce Currie Little</div> </div> </div> </div>
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