

[Comments on the task force reports will be directed to the leaders of the respective task forces]

Regarding the final ACM Position Statement:

I am happy to see that many of the problems with the draft statement have been corrected in the final statement. However in the interest of accuracy and fairness to those involved, I wish to make the following additional clarifications. All quoted statements are from the Final ACM Position Statement, dated July 17, 2000.

"2) the development of a first-draft of a statement of the body of knowledge (SWEBOK) that all software engineers would be expected to know."

The SWEBOK is developing a "guide" to the existing body of knowledge. It is not defining or stating the body of knowledge. Also, this is not a first draft. It is the second of three major versions, each of which has had multiple drafts and extensive review and comment from the software engineering community. It is however a "working" document. It is intended to be revised and improved in future versions.

"Most of the recent joint efforts have been directed toward creating a body of knowledge expected of competent software engineers. "

See comment above. The project is not creating a body of knowledge but rather a guide to an existing body of knowledge.

[from June, 2000 Council motion] "However, ACM Council believes that the current efforts of the Software Engineering Coordinating Committee (SWECC) toward licensing is misguided as they assume that software engineering is a profession appropriate for licensing under the rubric of the Professional Engineers Licensing structure and requirements."

SWEcc has never "assumed" that software engineering is a profession appropriate for licensing ... SWEcc has sought to understand the issue in depth, which means understanding all viewpoints (including international viewpoints), and to make relevant information available to anyone interested in the subject.

SWEcc's primary mission is to sponsor and coordinate diverse activities related to establishing software engineering as a profession, and its energies have been expended toward this end.

Dennis J. Frailey
July 19, 2000