

CSI 402 – Systems Programming – Handout 12.2

An Example Using the getcwd System Call

Note: The following program example shows how we can use the `getcwd` system call to obtain and print the name of the current working directory. In other words, the following program implements the shell command `pwd`.

Note that the header file `limits.h` may or may not contain the definition of `PATH_MAX` depending upon the version of Unix used.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <limits.h>

#ifdef PATH_MAX
#define PATH_MAX 255
#endif

int main (void) {

    char  dirname[PATH_MAX+1]; /* To be passed to getcwd system call. */

    /* Use getcwd to get the name of the current working directory. */
    if (getcwd(dirname, PATH_MAX) == NULL) {
        fprintf(stderr, "Could not obtain current working directory.\n");
        exit(1);
    }

    else {
        printf("Current working directory: %s\n", dirname);
    }

    return 0;
} /* End of main. */
```