Alex Sumner and Derrick Murphy

December 2, 2013

Dr. Caldwell

Computer Programming I

Copying Computer Programs

In the case of student C I believe that the student should not have the opportunity to make up the program a third time. This option is validated by section 1.4 of the ACM Code of Ethics. This is to be fair and take action not to discriminate. The student was not willing to put forth the effort to try and improve in the class the second time while it was evident that the other two students did. This would also be an unfair advantage to student B who had already dropped the course. Also, by taking this computer class the student chose to follow the ACM Code of Ethics and the Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics. Student C violated both the code and the commandments. In the Code of Ethics, the student violated section 1.3 – to be honest and trustworthy –, and section 1.5 – honoring property rights including copyrights and patents. The student violated section 1.3 because he/she used another student’s program instead of being trustworthy and doing their own work. The student violated section 1.5 because he/she duplicated another student’s work while being unauthorized to do so twice. Within the Ten Commandments, the student violated the 8th commandment of thou shalt not appropriate other people’s intellectual output by stealing the work. All of the students were given the same opportunity to make up their work. It is better to be honest and try your best on a failing program than it is to unrightfully take the work of another student.