To: Engineering Communications

../../../../initials.pngFrom: Willis Allstead (9-3)

Date: November 3, 2017

Subject: SLO #4 – Impact of Engineering Solutions

Large companies not taking the proper steps to secure their users’ information has led to major data breaches which negatively affect millions of Americans. Willis believes that the solution to this issue resides in the power of the government to enact and enforce meaningful regulations for companies which collect personal data about their users. Regulations must be created with input from companies, and employees at those companies, which follow industry-standard security practices. Since these responsible companies already know and continue to educate their staff about the most imminent threats facing data security, they would know how to best structure regulations for similar companies. As humans continue to develop as a species, using interconnected services and products will become more and more a part of daily life. On the global scale, developing more confidence in the companies providing these services and products will become increasingly important to further human development.

If people lose confidence in companies’ abilities to keep their data secure, it could mean less people would be willing to give them their information in the first place. This could lead to negative economic impacts since less people would spend money on these services and products. A loss of confidence would shift how people look at businesses especially in cultures and countries that have glorified big business, such as the United States. This change in how people see businesses would negatively affect the societies experiencing it because businesses would begin to struggle more for growth. Development of companies in the internet of things industry and general data collection companies like Google, Facebook, and Twitter would slow or come to a halt in this untrusting user climate. The new sharing industry would also suffer, which would also negatively affect the promises that industry has made about helping the environment with services like ride-sharing.