Professional Practice in Computing

Robert Street Building   21st August 2013

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Overview

The difference between a Profession and a Trade

Practitioners of a Profession are governed not only by the law of the land but also by a code of ethics administered by the profession itself.

Over time, professions win the right to self-administer professional standards.

Professionals act as enthusiasts for their calling and its ability to transform lives.
Definition of a Profession

• Professions Australia

• "A profession is a disciplined group of individuals who adhere to ethical standards and who hold themselves out as, and are accepted by the public as possessing, special knowledge and skills in a widely recognised body of learning derived from research, education and training at a high level, and who are prepared to apply this knowledge and exercise these skills in the interest of others.

• It is inherent in the definition of a profession that a code of ethics governs the activities of each profession. Such codes require behaviour and practice beyond the personal moral obligations of an individual. They define and demand high standards of behaviour in respect to the services provided to the public and in dealing with professional colleagues.

• Further, these codes are enforced by the profession and are acknowledged and accepted by the community."

• Adopted, Annual General Meeting, 26 May 1997

• Australian Council of Professions – http://www.professions.com.au
As an ACS member you must uphold and advance the honour, dignity and effectiveness of being a professional. This entails, in addition to being a good citizen and acting within the law, your adherence to the following Society values:

• 1. The Primacy of the Public Interest
  You will place the interests of the public above those of personal, business or sectional interests.

• 2. The Enhancement of Quality of Life
  You will strive to enhance the quality of life of those affected by your work.

• 3. Honesty
  You will be honest in your representation of skills, knowledge, services and products.

• 4. Competence
  You will work competently and diligently for your stakeholders.

• 5. Professional Development
  You will enhance your own professional development, and that of your colleagues and staff.

• 6. Professionalism
  You will enhance the integrity of the Society and the respect of its members for each other.

This Code of Ethics applies to all ACS members regardless of their role or specific area of expertise in the ICT industry.
Ethical Issues

• “Don’t Be Evil” - Google
• Obligations to the public - Lavabit
• Assisting in breaking the law - MegaUpload
• Value for money – Zone pricing
Thank you – Any Questions?

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