Professional Ethics

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1 Administrivia

Announcements

Assignment

Presentations begin next week. First up: Eli, Jordan.

From Last Time

Work and Wealth

Coming Up

Presentations.

2 Chapter Summary

1. Strongly differentiated professions.

   (a) Exceptions to ordinary morality by virtue of profession, not position.

(b) Role of efficacy.

2. Characteristics of a profession.

    (a) Mastery of an esoteric body of knowledge.

    (b) Autonomy, at personal and profession levels.

    (c) Formal Organization. Sets standards; controls admission.

    (d) Code of ethics.

    (e) Social function.

3. Professional relationships:

    (a) Employer-Employee.

    (b) Client-Professional.

    (c) Society-Professional.

    (d) Professional-Professional.

4. Codes of ethics.

3   Discussion Questions

1. Should computing be a profession?

2. What about software engineering?

3. What about other sub-disciplines of computing?

4. Some thorny technical ethics cases:

    (a) Challenger and Columbia disasters.

(b) Therac-25 disaster.

(c) e-Voting.

(d) RFID technology.