



8 April 2005

Walter L. Elden
2531 Canterbury Circle
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Re: IEEE CS/ACM Software Engineering Code of Ethics and Its Use for the IEEE Student Ethics Competition

The IEEE Ethics & Member Conduct Committee (EMCC) has received your inquiry dated 22 March 2005.

The IEEE CS/ASM Software Engineering Code of Ethics has been brought to the attention of the EMCC in the past. Your inquiry has two specific questions concerning this Code.

1. The IEEE CS/ACM Software Engineering Code of Ethics has a potential conflict with the IEEE Code of Ethics.

As you mention, every member of the IEEE is required to observe the IEEE Code of Ethics. Although the EMCC has not been involved with the creation of the IEEE CS/ASM Software Engineering Code of Ethics, the committee sees no apparent conflict between the two, and a person belonging to both the IEEE and the IEEE Computer Society can abide by each code of ethics.

2. Can the IEEE CS/ASM Software Engineering Code of Ethics be used during the IEEE Student Ethics Competition?

For the Student Ethics Competition, participants can reference other codes, in addition to the IEEE Code of Ethics, as long as there is no conflict. It is the responsibility of the judges to decide on the application of the additional codes.

Thank you for your inquiry and I hope I was able to answer your questions.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hiromasa Haneda'.

Hiromasa Haneda
Chair, IEEE Ethics & Member Conduct Committee