Lecture 2. Assessment

Ethical Scenarios – Short Response

Learning Objectives:

The student shall demonstrate the ability to use the four steps in the Ethical Dilemma Process Analysis and evaluation by answering the four questions below for each Case Scenario. The first three scenarios are required to be answered by the students. Use your NSPE Code of ethics as a guideline in addition to the four process steps for determining ethical reasoning and evaluation.

Consider each situation and answer the following questions:

Scenario 1

A professor supplements his income by consulting. He won a bid for a large project that was billed according to his professional hourly rate; yet he uses his graduate students to do a lot of the work under his close supervision and pays them a lower hourly rate. Opportunities for applied experience in the field are limited in this geographical area, and students are even willing to work for free to gain some applied experience that they need to meet their graduate school requirements.

■Is there an ethical problem?

■What are the primary references to the *Ethics Code*?

■What should the Engineer do?

■What could the Engineer have done to avoid the situation?

Scenario 2

A consultant has a Ph.D. in engineering but is not a licensed Engineer. When asked by potential clients about his credentials, he represents himself as a consultant trained in engineering (i.e. a qualified engineer) and is able to provide all the services that a licensed engineer provides.

- Is there an ethical problem?

- What are the primary references to the *Ethics Code*?

- What should the Engineer do?

- What could the Engineer have done to avoid the situation?

Scenario 3

An engineer who works for a consulting firm asked another engineer employed by a client firm out for a date. They hit it off and are now engaged to be married. PS: In any wedding there are always three rings. (The engagement Ring, The Wedding Ring and then the Suffer Ring.)

■Is there an ethical problem?

■What are the primary references to the *Ethics Code*?

■What should the Engineer do?

■What could the Engineer have done to avoid the situation?