Network Programming

Computer Ethics

Note: **This class lecture will be recorded!**
If you do not consent to this recording, please do not ask questions via your video, audio or public chat; send your question to the instructor using the private chat.

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Ethical Issues

▶ What are some ethical issues related to computers here at KU?

▶ Some may be, how can faculty use computers and the University's network? What about staff? Students?

▶ What about "reasonable resources"?

Ethical Decision-Making

▶ Get the Facts

▶ Identify Stakeholders and their positions

▶ Consider the Consequences of your decision

▶ Consider Guidelines and Principles

Professional Code of Ethics

► ACM

  ► https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics

► AITP (CompTIA)

  ► https://sites.google.com/a/gmatc.matc.edu/aitp/code-of-ethics

► SANS

  ► https://www.sans.org/security-resources/ethics

Common Ethical Issues

- Software Piracy

- Inappropriate use of Computing Resources

- Inappropriate Sharing of Information

Ethical Scenarios

▶ When is it justifiable to access data not belonging to you?

▶ What rights should the system administrator have to user account information? Should they be able to look at your files, or read your e-mail? What about when a break-in occurs on a system?

▶ When is it okay to encrypt data? Can a citizen protect data so nobody, including government agencies, can read it? Can an employee encrypt company-related data? What if that employee is out on vacation and the company needs access to that data?

Ethical Scenarios 2

▶ Jacob is the VP of sales and an important ally of your IT department. He has gone to bat for you before the CEO on important IT projects, such as a big sale automation system, and has valuably assisted in advocating for the use of the latest software packages within the sales organization. Jacob has played a major role in your success so far. You've just learned that Jacob and his support staff have acquired and are using an unlicensed software package on their desktops, while the rest of the company is standardized on Microsoft's Office Suite. You've talked to him and the rest of the company's leadership team about the need for standardized software and the risks the company runs if it uses unlicensed software, but no action has been taken. What would you do?

Ethical Scenarios 3

▶ As the information systems manager for a small manufacturing plant, you are responsible for all aspects of the use of information technology. A new inventory control system is being implemented to track the quantity and movement of all finished products stored in a local warehouse. Each time a fork-lift operator moves a case of product, he or she must first scan the UPC code on the case. Not only is the product information captured, but also the day, time, and fork-lift operator identification. This data is transmitted over a LAN to the inventory control computer that then displays information about the case and where it should be placed in the warehouse.

▶ The warehouse manager is excited about using the case movement data to monitor the productivity of the workers. He will be able to tell how many cases per shift each operator moves, and he plans to use this data to provide performance feedback that could result in pay increases or termination. He has asked you if there are any potential issues with using the data in this manner, and if so, what should be done to avoid them. How would you respond?