

Informal Lab 3*
CSC 300 Winter 2007
Turner

Today, 8 February, 2007, is the day of the Cal Poly Winter Job Fair.

Informally (and I emphasize this), we'd be interested in Industry's impressions and understandings of the SE Code of Ethics, and ethics for computing professionals in general. See if you can talk to a few reps, you can also do your own work in finding a job!

These are suggested questions, paraphrase them and ask them informally, don't read them from a script and don't write down answers. Get impressions. Write down a few notes later about your impressions. Don't worry about identifying who you spoke with, but do try to talk to a variety of industry reps. Make it interesting and fun, no pressure on anyone.

1. Did you know that Cal Poly CSC and SE graduates are required to take a full course dedicated to the ethics of technical design tradeoff analysis (something to this effect, calling CSC 300 a "professional responsibilities" course alone often means little to industry representatives I've spoken to, you might even test that theory).
2. Do you think a CSC or SE graduate is more suitable for a job with you if they've taken a course in the ethics of technical design tradeoffs?
3. Do you think it is better to take a course dedicated to ethics of technical design tradeoffs than a basic philosophical ethics course for CSC and SE majors?
4. Add your own question here, what do you think is interesting or important about industry coming to Cal Poly to solicit our graduates to take jobs with them?

Again, keep this informal, just a few questions of interest, do NOT push anyone on it, if they prefer not to discuss things, that's OK and be polite and back off. We don't want to quote anyone or pretend these answers represent the official positions of the company, we just want to sample some interesting thoughts and opinions from industry representatives. This might be especially interesting if you meet a Cal Poly grad and ask them how they value the CSC 300 background (and you might want to ask whether it was Turner or Dana who taught them there could be a difference!)

DELIVERABLE: We will have a general discussion about the job fair and these questions (and any other questions or answers you found interesting). Keep your eye out for interesting ethical questions raised by the very act of having a job fair, giving away free stuff, how they try to talk to you, things like that. This lab will be graded liberally, based on your ability to look around and think about the ethical issues of computing professionalism, to communicate and discuss the issues and impressions with your colleagues.