

## **TEACHING ETHICS IN IS COURSES: Everything You Always Wanted To Know But Were Afraid To Ask**

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We, the presenters of this workshop, would like to start with an admission, which we will assume is also true of the majority of the audience, as teachers in a computing discipline: We're a lot of things...but we're not trained ethics teachers.

Instructors in IS and CS programs come from varied backgrounds including math, engineering, business and the liberal arts. This is still true even with the number of CS and MIS degrees now being granted. But few teachers in these technical disciplines, if any, have backgrounds in philosophy or ethics. We naturally feel uncomfortable tackling computer ethics in the classroom.

### **THE PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP**

The workshop is for teachers, computer scientists, information systems professionals, and computer users. It is meant for those who (1) want to know more about ethics, (2) want to gain some experience dealing with ethical dilemmas, and most of all, (3) may be called upon to teach computer ethics.

Furthermore, the workshop is constructed with the inexperienced computer ethics teacher in mind. A computer ethics teacher does not need to become a philosopher in order to deal effectively with the subject matter. Sufficient background will be provided in ethical decision making and its underlying principles. The connection between information technology and ethics is also explained. Real world cases are used to illustrate the steps for analyzing a specific situation and making defensible ethical decisions.

### **WORKSHOP OVERVIEW**

Among the topics to be covered are:

- Ethical decision making
- What makes computer ethics different
- Making ethics happen in the classroom
- Case analysis techniques
- Choosing cases
- Using cases: requirements for teacher and students
- Managing the discussion
- Managing the classroom
- Where to find the time
- How to evaluate student learning
- Suggested readings and references