B.Sc in Information Systems and Information Technology

STAGE 3

SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATION 2008/2009

PROFESSIONAL AND LEGAL ISSUES IN IS/IT PRACTICE

DR. RONAN FITZPATRICK
DR. DEIRDRE LILLIS
MR. PETER LAWLESS

2 hours

Attempt any THREE questions.

Questions carry equal marks.
Q.1. Outsourcing is a strategic IS/IT option that can be availed of by senior management. Write a comprehensive report for the management team of a young company who are considering this strategy. The management team are aware that an outsourcing strategy can cause difficulties. Your report should address such difficulties. (33 marks)

Q.2. (a) i. Discuss how the Data Protection Acts of 1988 and 2003 have impacted modern organisations. Your answer should address the roles of the principal individuals referred to in the Acts. (20 marks)

ii. Explain three examples of data that is exempted from these Acts. (6 marks)

(b) Explain how the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 impacts the IT professional. (7 marks)

Q.3. Organisations that develop Information Systems need to be continuously conscious of protecting the intellectual property of their investments.

(a) State and briefly describe the intellectual property that such organisations need to protect. (6 marks)

(b) Fully explain how such organisations might protect their intellectual property:

i. During contract negotiation

ii. During the project development life cycle

iii. During the product life cycle to product retirement. (21 marks)

(c) Explain how intellectual property is protected by legislation. (6 marks)

Q.4. (a) As a chartered member of a society that represents the interests of professional IT practitioners, explain how you might use an acknowledged ‘model of needs’ as part of your strategy for staff job satisfaction and continuing staff development. (14 marks)

(b) Outline and explain the strategy you would use to implement a staff training and development programme. (9 marks)

(c) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of filling staff vacancies by promotion from inside an organisation. (10 marks)