B.Sc in Information Technology

YEAR 2

SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINATIONS 2002

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES IN IS PRACTICE

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Attempt FOUR questions.

Each question carries a total of 25 marks.
Q.1. (a) Describe the role of a Professional Institution of your choice in the Information Systems or Software Engineering professions. (10 marks)
(b) Explain how membership of your chosen Institution in section (a) is structured. (5 marks)
(c) Discuss the main principles that should be included in a professional code of conduct. (10 marks)

Q.2. (a) Discuss the main provisions of the Data Protection Act of 1988 (15 marks)
(b) Explain the role of the Data Controller. (6 marks)
(c) Explain examples of data that is exempted from this Act. (4 marks)

Q.3. (a) In the context of Information Systems, explain in detail the terms copyright, trademark and patent. (9 marks)
(b) Describe how Intellectual Property Rights have an impact on Information Systems managers. (10 marks)
(c) Outline the process by which Intellectual Property Rights are established and protected. (6 marks)

Q.4. (a) Explain, with suitable examples, the characteristics of a quality software product. (12 marks)
(b) Discuss how international standards support the creation of quality software products. (7 marks)
(c) Explain how the perspective of software quality differs for a Project Manager and a Systems Operation Manager. (6 marks)
Q.5. (a) Discuss the main clauses that should be included in an IS professionals Contract of Employment. (10 marks)
(b) Explain three principles which your would apply when recruiting and selecting staff as members of an Information Systems development team. (9 marks)
(c) Explain how appropriate on-going staff training and development can be achieved. (6 marks)

Q.6. Write short notes on any FIVE of the following:
   i. Maslow’s hierarchy of needs
   ii. The Freedom of Information Act
   iii. Systems development teams
   iv. Financing Information Systems solutions
   v. Professional Code of Practice
   vi. Ethics in Information Systems practice (5 x 5 marks)