B.Sc in Information Technology

YEAR 2

SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINATIONS 2004

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES IN IS PRACTICE

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Attempt FOUR questions.

Each question carries a total of 25 marks.
Q.1. Since the 1980s legislation has been enacted which specifically impacts the expanding Information Technology sector. Some of this legislation has been designed to protect individual’s rights.

(a) Discuss the rights of individuals that are protected by:
   i. The Data Protection Acts
   ii. Acts relating to copyright. (16 marks)

(b) Discuss TWO examples of other legislation that has been enacted which specifically impacts the Information Technology sector. (9 marks)

Q.2. As Information Technology manager of an international software company with responsibility for both a systems development function and a systems operation function you have been requested to review the company’s attitude towards quality. From initial discussions with your staff a Total Quality policy appears to be the solution.

Discuss how you might proceed now and what issues you might address. (25 marks)

Q.3. (a) Clarify the difference between a Request for Proposal and an Invitation to Tender. (4 marks)

(b) Outline and explain the information that you would expect to receive in reply to a Request for Proposal (RFP). (14 marks)

(c) Having received replies to the RFP discuss how you would select the successful proposal. (7 marks)

Q.4. (a) State FOUR professionally qualified persons that you would appoint to the project team that will develop a new Enterprise Information System. (4 marks)

(b) Outline the professional responsibilities that these individuals would have in the project team. (13 marks)

(c) As a result of your appointments in part (a) state the advantages that you expect will accrue
   i. During system development
   ii. During system use. (8 marks)
Q.5. (a) Distinguish between *current assets* and *fixed assets*. Support your answer with examples from the Information Technology sector. (4 marks)

(b) Discuss the options that are available for financing information systems solutions. (9 marks)

(c) Management at Nanor Stores Ltd. who are a large national retailers are concerned that they might suffer in the same way as one of their competitors who have had to cease trading after fire completely destroyed the competitor’s IT centre.

Discuss the options that are available to Nanor’s management in order that their systems can be reinstated with minimum delay in the event of such an occurrence. (12 marks)

Q.6. Write short notes on any FIVE of the following:

i. Outsourcing;
ii. Obligations of Data Controllers;
iii. Software risk management;
iv. Maslow’s hierarchy of needs;
v. Activity-on-Arrow network diagrams;
vi. The IS function in an organisational structure. (5 X 5 marks)