

Engineering Professional Practice

How are engineers perceived?

- University?
- Community?
- Positive - trustworthy, responsible, problem solvers, managerial links, apply standards through science
- Negative - poor communicators, poor management style, overly theoretical, undergraduate ‘beer monsters’

Who are professionals?

- Professional acquire & maintain a body of knowledge in a discipline (knowledge)
- Persons with qualifications & experience acceptable to other practitioners in a discipline (association)
- Discipline practice governed by accepted professional values (ethics)

Professional Knowledge

- Entry level qualifications
- Experience
- Ongoing training & education

Professional Association

- Recognition by other practitioners
- Membership of appropriate professional associations - IE Aust, discipline associations
- Crossing employment boundaries

Professional Ethics

- Existence of Code of Ethics, or Practice
- Acceptance of the Code as a basis for professional behaviour
- Willingness to reflect on ethical dilemmas between professional & organisational responsibilities

What rules do we live our lives
by?

Personal ?

Professional ?

The Engineer's Code of Ethics

9 Principles for Professional Life

Ethical Dilemmas

- Violations of the Code of Ethics
- Differences between professional & organisational responsibilities (accountability vs profit)
- Resolving dilemmas
- ‘Whistleblowing’ - Protective Disclosures Act