Birzeit University

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

ENCS521–Computer Engineering Ethics

Second Semester 2014/2015– Midterm Exam

6/4/2015, 1:00 pm

Instructor: Abdel Salam Sayyad

Question 1:

The following statements are incorrect. Explain why.

1. Utilitarianism is an ethical framework that is always applied using cost-benefit analysis.
2. Engineers should never betray their loyalty to employers or their fellow engineers.
3. The engineer must immediately notify government agencies when he finds out about safety related problems with his company’s products.
4. As an example of ethical dilemmas, Engineer X, who is employed by the government, is offered a bribe so that she favors a bidding company in a public project.
5. According to the golden rule, you should treat others exactly the way they treat you.

Question 2:

Engineer Ahmad wrote the user manual for a dish-washing machine. In the section about “safety precautions”, he wrote about the possibility of fire as a result of an extreme power surge, which is very rare, with a recommendation to use a surge protector. Two years later, Ahmad discovered that the user manual had been edited to remove that safety precaution. Knowing that 2000 machines had been sold, and no fires reported thus far, what do you think Ahmad should do?

Question 3:

وردالبند التالي في تقاليد وآداب المهنة لنقابة المهندسين:

**"يحظر على أي عضو يشغل وظيفة أو يكون مستخدماً في أجهزة الدولة أو المؤسسات الرسمية أو شبه الرسمية أو البلديات الاشتغال في الأعمال الهندسية الحرة ما لم تسمح له بذلك قوانين وأنظمة الدائرة او المؤسسة التي يعمل بها"**

1. ما هو المبرر الأخلاقي لهذا البند؟
2. هل يجب على المؤسسات الرسمية السماح لموظفيها بممارسة الأعمال الهندسية الحرة؟