

# ENSC 406-2

# Engineering Ethics & Professional Practice

## Introduction

January 8, 2004

# Topics

- Professional practice
- Professional responsibilities
- Engineering ethics
- Engineering law
- Sustainable development/environmental impacts
- Social implications of technology
- Globalization

# ENSC 406: Tripartite structure

- Guest Lectures (Syllabus)
  - Professional practice, engineering law, etc.
- Ethics Seminars (Web site)
- Group Projects (WebCT)

# Expectations

- Regular attendance
- On time
- Fully prepared
- Active participant
- Team player
- Professional conduct

# Housekeeping Issues

- Ok to use 1<sup>st</sup> edition of textbook; 2<sup>nd</sup> edition on 4-hour loan
- Can *occasionally* attend other seminars with permission
- Audio tapes of guest lectures in library
- Graded course
- Using WebCT
- Turnitin.com???



# Group Projects

- Assigned groups
- Virtual teams (WebCT discussion groups)
- Grade combines project assessment and personal contributions
- Practical assignment with a real-world purpose
- Short report or equivalent document + reference list + in-class activity + group assessment

# Group Projects, cont.

- Project topics closely related to course topics
- Web-based research to facilitate sharing
- Where possible, include Canadian perspective

# Some possible projects

- An opinion piece on IEEE publishing restrictions on researchers from Iran, Cuba, etc.
- A code of academic honesty for ENSC
- A piece addressing the public's fears or misconceptions of an emerging technology such as nanotechnology
- A back-page piece on the (double?) meaning of "engineering sustainability"



# Other general topic ideas

- Planned obsolescence and sustainability
- Engineers as employers and employees
- Environmental ethics
- Engineering ethics across borders
- Legal and ethical issues of . . .

Your suggestions?

# Project housekeeping issues

- Submit topic suggestions to main WebCT discussion forum
  - Suggest general topics, leaving teams to decide on approach
  - Feel free to include discussion, resources, suggestions
- Groups will be assigned based on interest in topics
  - Everyone will list top 3 choices
  - Please base choices on genuine interest

# Ethics seminars (tutorials)

- Preparation instructions for ethics seminars are on course web site  
<http://www.sfu.ca/~stevenso/ENSC406>
- For first seminar, read chapters 1 & 2 of *Engineering Ethics* and do first two weeks of prep

# Questions?