


2008 FIG Working Week
“Integrating Generations”

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**“Professional Responsibilities:
Code of Professional Conduct”**

Wednesday, 18th June 2008
Norra Latin, Stockholm City Convention Centre

[Ethics](#) via Latin ethica from the Ancient Greek ᠉θικ᠆ (φιλοσοφία) "moral philosophy", from the adjective of ᠉θος ᠆thos "custom, habit" (wikipedia)



Professionals are equipped with both additional knowledge and training to make informed decisions and judgment and perceived to bring with it both authority and standing in society!

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Thus Professional Organizations promulgate Code of Professional Conduct to govern the very conduct of its professionals?

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WHY?

Ethics via Latin ethica from the Ancient Greek ἠθική [ἠθικός] "moral philosophy", from the adjective of ἦθος ἔθος "custom, habit" (wikipedia)

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A black and white cartoon illustration. A man with a large nose and a suit sits behind a desk. A sign on the desk reads "PROBATION OFFICER". He is looking at a man standing in front of him who is wearing a backpack. The man with the backpack has a small 'G' on his chest. The cartoon is signed "albert" at the bottom right.

"You waste all your energy committing mindless acts of vandalism and destruction. Have you ever thought of becoming a surveyor?"

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POT-SHOTS — Brilliant Thoughts in 17 words or less

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**THERE'S ALWAYS
 A GOOD
 REASON**




**FOR MY
 BAD
 BEHAVIOR.**

AshleighBrilliant.com

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“ . . . most people surveying the world around them today see only chaos. They suffer a sense of personal powerlessness and pointlessness.” . . . “Individuals need life structure. A life lacking in comprehensive structure is an aimless wreck. The absence of structure breeds breakdown. Structure provides the relative fixed points of reference we need.” (Alvin Tofler, “The Third Wave”, 1980)

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“In these ‘relatively fixed points of reference’ that an **orderly** business provides its customers and its employees in an otherwise **disorderly** world.” (Michael E Gerber, “The E-Myth Revisited”, 1995)

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This presentation hoped to stimulate discussion on this whole issue of regulating and enforcing professional responsibilities and conduct (through codes) in this day and age.

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Land Surveyors Board

The Land Surveyors Board, enacted by an Act of Parliament in 1958, is one of the older professional regulatory authorities in Malaysia tasked with the control and regulation of licensed land surveyors and all matters related thereto.

Its primary objective is to regulate and control the licensing of land surveyors and matters pertaining thereto; and to provide leadership in the upholding and advancement of the survey and mapping profession.


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The Code of Professional Conduct that is part of the proposed Regulations states that every licensed land surveyor shall-

- (i) comply with the provisions of the National Land Code 1965 (Act 56), Licensed Land Surveyors Act 1968 (Act 458), any rules and regulations made there under and any other laws in force related to his professional duties;
- (ii) order his conduct so as to uphold the dignity, standing and reputation of the profession;
- (iii) not canvass or solicit professional employment or offer to make by commission or otherwise payment for the introduction of such employment;
- (iv) not be convicted of a criminal offence which makes him unfit to be a member of his profession;
- (v) not be dishonest or fraudulent in discharging of his professional duties;
- (vi) not be adjudicated a bankrupt under the Bankruptcy Act 1967;
- (vii) not be charging in respect of professional services rendered to his client, of fees or costs not in accordance with the Schedule in this regulation except where the client agreed in writing that the amount charged is more than as provided under the Schedule;
- (viii) not certify, affix or put his signature to drawings or plans which are not prepared by him or under his supervision for the purpose of obtaining approval from any authority;
- (ix) only advertise his professional services by public means or any other media in accordance with guidelines or circulars issued by the Board;
- (x) not practise another profession under the relevant laws relating to that profession;
- (xi) not, directly or indirectly, attempt to supplant or intervene or attempt to intervene in or in connection with a survey by another licensed land surveyor or take over the work of that other licensed land surveyor until consent has been obtained from that licensed land surveyor;
- (xii) not assume or consciously accept a position in which his interest is in conflict with his professional duty
- (xiii) not injure or attempt to injure, whether directly or indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects or practice of another licensed land surveyor;
- (xiv) not be involved in any other trade or business that will bring the profession into disrepute;
- (xv) promptly comply with any request or query made by the Board in respect of his professional conduct.

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Disciplinary Jurisdiction of the Board

The Board has disciplinary jurisdiction over all Licensed Surveyors and the process kicks-in whenever there is a complaint lodge with the Board of Professional Misconduct.

“Professional Misconduct” in the Proposed Regulation means conduct that in the opinion of the Board is discreditable to the profession and includes gross carelessness, neglect and incapacity in the performance of professional duties and impropriety in professional conduct.

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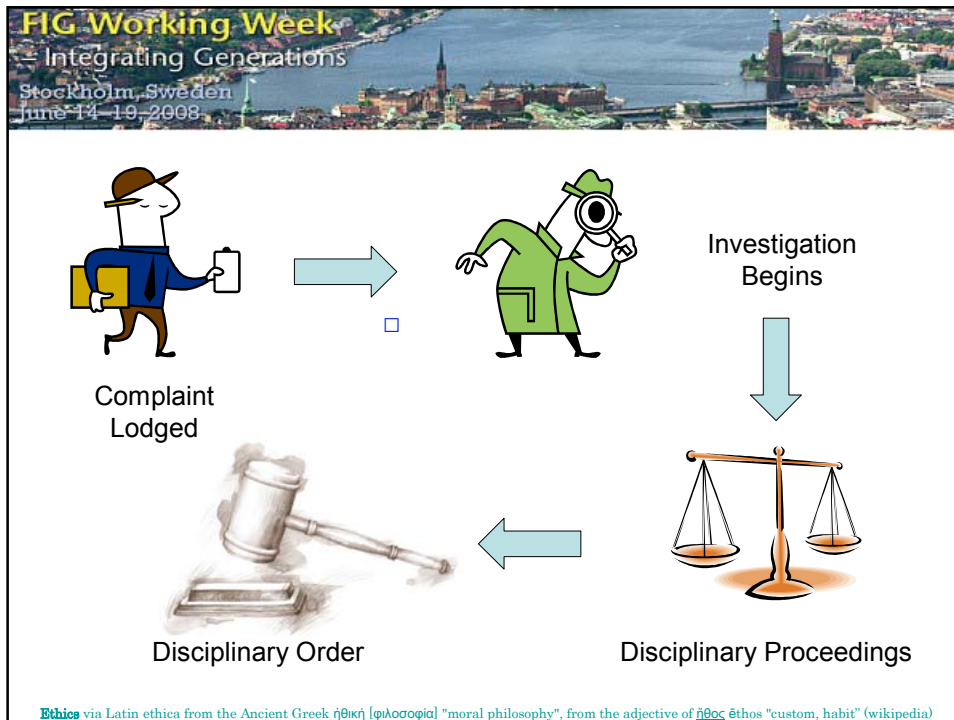


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The disciplinary proceeding is lengthy and exhaustive involving three levels of consideration and determination, namely the investigative process (by the Investigation Committee), the disciplinary hearing (by the Disciplinary Committee) and the disciplinary order (by the Board).

Any Licensed Surveyors who felt aggrieved by this exhaustive proceeding may still appeal to the High Court as a course of last resort (the appeal).

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Conclusion

Code of Professional Conduct reflects an organisation's beliefs, intent and values on its responsibilities to the general population.

With such Code, procedures must be in place to determine whether a violation has occurred and if so, what remedy is available.

This is particularly so because of both the specialist knowledge attained and the mandate Licensed Surveyors entrusted.

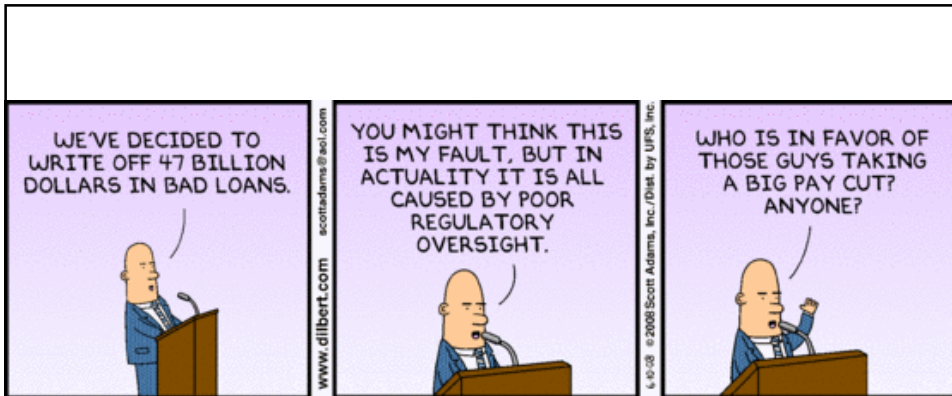
Codes are promulgated primarily to prevent the exploitation of the client and to preserve the dignity and integrity of the profession.

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Code of Professional Conduct and the accompanying disciplinary proceedings that follows rules of natural justice should inspire the highest ethical behaviour, assure trust and confidence, thereby reflecting the honour and dignity of the Profession, emphasizing the positive attributes of the professional practice, bringing the greatest good and value to all stakeholders.

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Thank You

