The Pledge of the Computing Professional

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Presentation to SIGCAS
February 29, 2012

**The Pledge of the
Computing Professional**

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Thank you!

Thank you for your time. I hope that The Pledge will be of interest to SIGCAS.

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What we are

The Pledge of the Computing Professional is a new organization to promote the notion of computing as a recognized profession at the time of graduation for students in Computer Science and other computing-related programs.
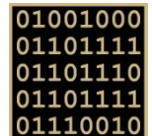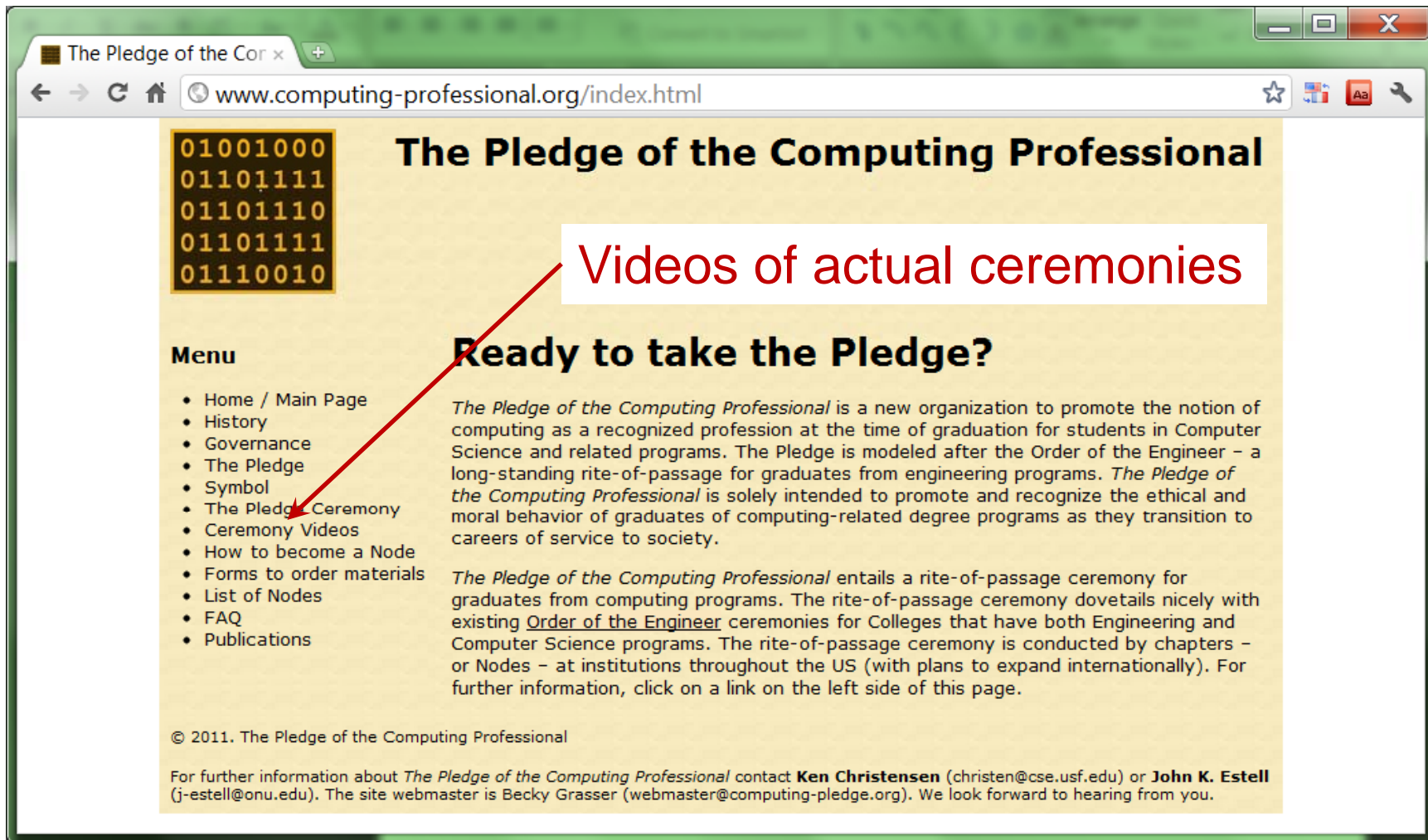
We are…

- Modeled after the *Order of the Engineer*

- Providing a rite-of-passage ceremony at graduation

- Promoting and recognizing ethical and moral behavior

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What we are *not*

We are *not…*

- A new organization to "compete" with ACM, IEEE-CS, etc.

- Anything to do with certification or licensure

- An honor society

- Exclusive to only specific sub-areas of computing

- Exclusive to only certain types of institutions

- A replacement for the ACM Code of Ethics

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Our website

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Who we are – people

We started as a group of 17…

- Stephen O. Agyei-Mensah (Clarion University of Pennsylvania)
- Bill Albrecht (McNeese State University)
- Anne Applin (Southern Maine Community College)
- Beverly Bachmayer (Intel)
- Ken Christensen (University of South Florida)
- Venu Dasigi (Southern Polytechnic State University)
- Molisa Derk (Dickinson State University)
- John K. Estell (Ohio Northern University)
- Leslie D. Fife (Louisiana State University, Shreveport)
- Dennis Frailey (Raytheon, retired)

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Who we are – people continued

Group of 17 continued

- Rebecca (Becky) Grasser (Lakeland Community College)
- George C. Harrison (Norfolk State University)
- James K. Huggins (Kettering University)
- Benjamin Kuperman (Oberlin College)
- Jody Paul (Metropolitan State College of Denver)
- Ray Schneider (Bridgewater College)
- Tom Stokke (University of North Dakota)

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Who we are – incorporation

We are a non-profit

- Necessary to incorporate to be able to accept money

- We are incorporated in the State of Florida

- Seeking 501(c)3 status this spring 2012
  - Or else we pay taxes

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Going into our second year

Our second year of induction ceremonies…

- Ohio Northern University

- University of South Florida

- Kettering University

- McNeese State University

- Metropolitan State College of Denver

- University of the Pacific

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The induction ceremony

Script for a Pledge Ceremony (available on-line)

- Read the history of The Pledge

- Have initiates recite the oath while standing

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Script for a Pledge ceremony… <u>continued</u>

- Recognize each initiate by walking across a stage
  - Present pin
  - Present certificate

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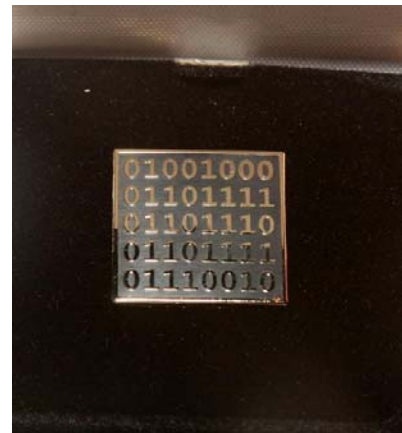
Pledge of the Computing Professional

May 11, 2011

Inaugural Induction Ceremony – Metropolitan State College of Denver

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The Pledge of the
Computing Professional

I am a Computing Professional.

My work as a Computing Professional affects people's lives, both now and into the future.
As a result, I bear moral and ethical responsibilities to society.

As a Computing Professional, I

Firstname Lastname

pledge to practice my profession with the highest level
of integrity and competence. I shall always use my skills for the public good.

I shall be honest about my limitations, continuously seeking to improve my skills through
lifelong learning. I shall engage only in honorable and upstanding endeavors.

By my actions, I pledge to honor my chosen profession.

USF
UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

_____

Signature of inductee
May 6th, 2011

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The Pledge (oath)

I am a Computing Professional.

My work as a Computing Professional affects people's lives, both now and into the future.

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The symbol

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Can you decode this?

It is "Honor" in ASCII

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Why we are

We are…

- to the computing professions what the *Order of the Engineer* is to the engineering professions

- a rite-of-passage ceremony for computing graduates

- an entry into, and recognition of, the profession

- a means of validating the importance of ethics

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Future goals

We seek to…

- **_Grow…_** have more institutions join and participate

- **_Improve…_** have greater impact

- **_Affiliate…_** work together with like-minded groups to promote computer ethics

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Discussion

Where do we go from here?

- Does The Pledge fit with SIGCAS?

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