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Introduction

In this paper, we discuss about how the software engineering research community is currently dealing with the ethical issues that some empirical research presents.

Discussion about survey of UK university department heads related to the ethical issues in empirical research.

The attitudes of software engineering community when the research is conducted involving human participants.
The aim was to see how UK university departments are considering the ethical dimensions in software engineering researching involving human participants of some of the research that is being done.

The survey was focused on sections like size of the respondent's department, number of software engineering researchers employed, and amount of software engineering research undertaken by the department.
Research Methods

- Sent detailed questionnaires to all 94 university computing department heads in the UK.
- The questionnaires were directly posted to heads of the departments.
Research Findings

- Size of research effort
- Importance of ethical dimensions
- Rate of approval
- Training in Ethics
Conclusions

- About the ethical issues involved in conducting research with the human participants.
- Most of the staff working in computing departments come from a technical background.
- Software engineering and computing research generally is becoming more people-centered.
- Culture of the institutions.
Possible ways forward

- Software engineering community needs to be encouraged to take ethical issues more seriously.
- Helpful, if there were a code of conduct to guide researchers.
- Codes to be updated or software engineering community to develop its own code.
- Provision of training in research ethics.
Reference

Thank You