



## ***Software Quality Research Laboratory (SQRL)***

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Professor David Parnas, Director of SQRL, is delighted to invite you to a seminar entitled "*Three Views of Software Engineering Education*", on Thursday June 12<sup>th</sup> 2003 in the CSIS building at the University of Limerick. This one-day seminar will present three very different examples of software engineering education - from an industry (advanced) educational programme in a very successful German software company, to the academic experience in developing programmes in educational institutions in Canada and Ireland. This seminar is a must for all those interested in software engineering education in Ireland.

### **Agenda**

**10.00am Registration and Coffee**

**10.30am "Sidestep: An Unusual Software Training Programme" Johannes Siedersleben, sd&m, Germany**

Sidestep is a training programme for software engineers that was conducted by sd&m during the first six months of 2001: 28 new employees, all of whom had a Masters degree or a Ph.D. in engineering or a science, other than computer science, were taught what sd&m considers to be essential for software engineering. The courses were taught by both University professors and some of sd&m's best developers. Since completing the programme the graduates have been working as software engineers in sd&m's software projects. This talk, will describe the programme's content and how the programme was organised. We will then discuss the lessons learned by participants, managers and teachers. The talk is intended to give University colleagues a picture of what one company believes that the graduates of software engineering programmes should know.

## **12.00 Developing a Software Engineering Course at the University of Limerick**

Dr Chris Exton, Dept. of Computer Science & Information Systems University of Limerick

While the University of Limerick has both research and industrial experience in the discipline, it currently does not have a Masters program in Software Engineering. Since 1988, members of the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems have developed specific expertise in this area, through the conduct of research into related techniques and technologies for software engineering. The department's expertise has been greatly increased with the recent addition of Prof. David Parnas, one of the world's leading researchers in software engineering, and Prof. Brian Fitzgerald who has more than 10 years industrial experience of software development in a variety of organisations, in a number of countries. It is hoped that the combined departmental experience and expertise will provide important input into the new Masters of Software Engineering programme, due to start at UL in 2004. This talk will discuss some of the recent debates about the new courses content and structure.

## **12.45 Lunch**

## **2.00pm Developing a Software Engineering Course at McMaster University, Canada**

Prof. David Lorge Parnas, P.Eng. (Ontario)  
Director of the Software Quality Research Laboratory,  
University of Limerick.

McMaster University in Canada has developed a unique undergraduate programme in Software Engineering. Unlike most other programmes, the McMaster programme was not a modification of an existing Computer Science programme. Instead, it was based on traditional engineering programmes and designed so that its graduates would be qualified to work as licensed Professional Engineers in Canada. It was fully accredited by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board. Unlike its competitors, it was not a combination of Computer Science and Computer Engineering (hardware) programmes but designed from basic principles with completely new courses. This talk will describe the programme and explain the rationale.

## **2.45pm Panel Feedback & Discussion**

## **4.00pm Conclusion & Coffee**