

ACS 567 - Software Project Management

Spring 2009 - Kalyan Govindu

SWEBOK Knowledge Area : Software Testing

Focus:

Most managers including some software engineers are not completely aware of the depth of this particular field. Testing, if done the right way provides an objective, independent view of the software to allow the business side stakeholders to see their requirements fulfilled.

Major Steps:

Software Testing, depending on the testing method employed, it can be implemented at any time in the development process, however the most testing effort is employed after the requirements have been defined and coding process has been completed.

It is a common misconception that software defects and failures are caused by developer error or coding error, which is not true. The bigger more expensive defects are caused by requirements gaps.

Here are some of the more popular testing method that are used today:

- Black box
- White box
- Acceptance
- Regression
- Performance etc.

And this list keeps growing with every new SDLC introduction.

Experience:

Originally, I was very resistant to testing, not that I did not like it, but because it was a hassle. After coding think of the test cases and write the tests, just did not

seem to be a fruitful use of my time. Recently, we at my work place have been using Agile Unified Process (AUP) and Test Driven Development (TDD) which insists that you start with the test and then write your code to it. And also indicates that these tests have to be run as often as possible. In our case, we have setup the tools to run our test nightly and the tools produces a email notification, if it finds any problems. These is working out very well, we have already found several little bugs that my code interaction with other team members code has caused.