Honor Statement

“ As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor in ownership is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do.”

Implementing an Academic Honor Statement at Michigan State University

“ The added value of a degree from Michigan State University as a result of this campaign is recognizable when all students are responsible for upholding honesty in everything they do. Spartans are leading society to a more educated culture of integrity beyond the time as a student.”

-ASMSU Office of the President

Feedback, Comments, Questions?
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Who Will Uphold Honor?
Spartans Will.
WHAT IS THE SPARTAN CODE OF HONOR?
The Spartan Code of Honor is a student initiative with the purpose to promote personal integrity inside and outside of the classrooms at Michigan State University. All Spartans will be expected to uphold this initiative in its full extent beginning as a student in order to carry throughout the lifetime of an individual that graduates from Michigan State University. Student conduct that is inconsistent with the academic pledge is addressed through existing policies, regulations, and ordinances governing academic honest and integrity.

WHY IS THE SPARTAN CODE OF HONOR ESSENTIAL?
Spartans come from different value traditions and backgrounds, but the reputation of Michigan State University and the awarding of degrees depends on a full community commitment to integrity. If students and faculty can agree on the standards by which we conduct ourselves within the University, our classroom environment and the overall campus becomes a fairer place for all. If individuals outside of the University know the standards by which we conduct ourselves, the reputation of a Spartan will be enhanced; Michigan State University will be known as the place where Spartans learn and practice ethical learning behavior as well as personal responsibility.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
The goal for the Spartan Code of Honor is to be a standalone statement that will be adhered to in all colleges. The honor statement will be located in the Spartan Life Handbook. After endorsement through University Academic Governance before the end of the 2015-16 academic school year, ASMSU will perform a full rollout in the fall semester of the 2016-17 school year. This will encourage faculty implementation in course syllabi, as well as visual elements (i.e. stickers on BlueBooks, Desire2Learn, signage across campus, etc.).

TESTIMONIES
“We must rely on honest scholarship – that our work is our own, that we do not take credit for the work of others, and that we have worked to our own highest abilities. To build the kind of academic community that is honored and esteemed outside our community, we have to pledge ourselves to the highest level of integrity inside the community.”
–Provost June Youatt

“Integrity is the foundation of defining a person’s life. The collection of life’s choices, actions and relationships allow an individual to excel with integrity. While we are each accountable for our own behavior, Michigan State University delivers an environment to shine as a student and live as a Spartan of Honor.”
–Athletic Director Mark Hollis

“Maintaining a high standard of academic integrity is a responsibility for all Spartans. While Lyman Briggs College currently has a long-standing honor code in place for its own students, the new MSU Spartan Code of Honor is essential for holding everyone accountable at Michigan State University.”
–Joseph Friedli
Senior, Lyman Briggs College
President, Lyman Briggs Student Advisory Council

“Ensuring that MSU creates an environment in which students are creating 100% original work not only makes them better writers, researchers, and learners, but also makes our University look even more prestigious than it already is.”
–Della Uekert
Sophomore, James Madison College

MOVING FORWARD
Spartan involvement will be crucial to the crafting, endorsement, and adoption of the honor statement. To move forward, ASMSU will be holding round table discussions with student groups and college governance committees. In addition, we will be looking to the current colleges at Michigan State University that have implemented honor codes of their own, looking for their advice to the improvement and success of the Spartan Code of Honor. Coordinating the honor statement to be a unifying element to students regardless of their major or concentration, ASMSU will have conversations with our resource centers that aide student success in their endeavors (i.e. neighborhood engagement centers).