An Ethic for Honors College students at South Dakota State University
Fall, 2013

We students in the Honors College at South Dakota State University are united in our commitments to academic excellence, community engagement and personal growth. To fulfill these commitments, we seek to create and seize opportunities and open ourselves to transformative reflection, relationships, laughter, learning and discovery. We hope to be honest, trustworthy and respectful. We strive to do the right thing. We try to conduct ourselves as responsive and responsible citizens of our university, community, nation and world.

We cultivate our minds by exploring challenges and questioning assumptions. We are academically honest. We do not cheat, plagiarize or in any way claim others’ work as our own. We strive to be intellectually confident and humble. We practice the art of wonder. We examine multiple disciplines, cultures, and ways of knowing and being, pushing the boundaries of our comfort zones in search of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. By doing so, we open ourselves to deep learning and prepare ourselves to know and help others.

We are dedicated to lifelong personal growth, proceeding with open minds and hearts. As those aspiring to grow into capable, conscientious, self-aware citizens, we endeavor to develop our whole selves, and to fashion for ourselves and one another lives of purpose and meaning.

We want to be welcoming and to serve our communities with joy and generosity. We strive to build relationships based on respect, and to bring out the best in one another. We believe we must hold ourselves accountable. Through mindful reflection and active engagement, we hope to practice authentic leadership, adapt growth mindsets, and use our abilities to positively impact the world. Individually and collectively, we want to be a constructive, progressive, positive force at our university and in our community. We are committed to the practice of integrity in all we do.

In signing my name below, I commit myself to the ideals articulated above and pledge to abide by the spirit of this document. I also understand that, in turn, the Honors College – wholly devoted to promoting student learning at the highest levels -- pledges to offer a curriculum that is current and rigorous, in an environment that is stimulating, enriching and supportive of these ideals, and the continued development and success of its members.

Signed:________________________________________________________________________

Date:______________________________________________________________________________

Witness:____________________________________________________________________________
Continuing Honors College student, faculty or staff member

DUE TO THE HONORS COLLEGE OFFICE BY 9/21/2013 FOR CONSIDERATION FOR EARLY REGISTRATION FOR SPRING, 2014