

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

4th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

The Ashesi honor code system is a system which is very good and important to me and other students in Ashesi University College. The Honor code system has brought good impact unto my life that is it has improved my ways of behavior and has improved my ethics and integrity level. The honor code system has helped me to do the right things at the right time and has taught me how to work independently.

I think the Honor Code System is very important for Ghana and for Africa because it will make the level of corruption be reduced or erased even though it very severe. It will also make people in Africa and Ghana becomes good and responsible leaders and workers. It will also remove the kind of perceptions people in the foreign countries have about Africa and Ghana as well.

Ashesi's honor code should be maintained because it has improved the lives of students in Ashesi University.

Sincerely,

Abigail Nana Yaa Badu

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 3rd, 2010.

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The honor system to me means the difference between the behaviors of the students in top notch schools like Harvard University which is abroad and schools like the ones we have in Ghana. If Ghana wants to raise bright, responsible and honorable future leaders, why not give this university college the chance to do exactly that? It is true that this is new, innovative and maybe confusing for some people but that is what it takes to change a generation. We need someone to take the first step and this school is doing just that, please give this a chance.

It seems that this move is impossible to outsider but it is working in the school. What a beautiful sight to see young adults taking responsibility for their own actions and even the actions of their friends. If we are all genuinely accountable for our actions, what can we not achieve collectively as a country? Ashesi University College has bravely taken the first difficult step in the right direction, please allow it.

Sincerely,

Adjetey Sowah, Class of 2012.

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President of Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 5, 2010

Dear Sir,

The Honor Code adopted by students of Ashesi University is a bold step I'm part to be proud of. To me, and as a student of this institution, it helps me to continue to live by high standards of integrity. This means, I should stand for the truth at all times and in every circumstance I find myself, of which I can boldly say I have so far and will continue to pass the test. Thus, I can now say this honor code has and will continue to imbibe in me the sense of being honest always and everywhere.

In a country and continent where I hear of corruption here and there, I believe this code will help change the attitude of Ghanaians and the continent as a whole. As I graduate from school, I will go into the working world with this mindset, and eventually influence the environment I happen to work in. Other non-Ghanaians in this school after graduation will go into their various countries to try and influence others to, thus changing Africa as a whole.

I strongly believe such an initiative which is rare in our society should be lauded and encouraged since it will tend to help us all. We will have a country where people wouldn't feel comfortable doing bad things since others around are standing up for the truth. Hence, corruption will be reduced and the Ghana and the continent will be a better one.

Sincerely,

Afua Adumea Larbi

(Senior Year, Bsc. Business Administration)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

17th February, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The honour code is very dear to my heart; it reaffirms my belief that there can be a generation of ethical leaders in today's society. The honor code provides an opportunity for me to express a higher level of morality. Through the honor code system I have been able to hold myself and my friends accountable for actions taken. I have always been a firm believer in this system because it proves to me that I can trust myself and I can trust others to do the right thing. I have been able to see and understand my peers in a new light since the inception of the honour code. This system allows us to challenge ourselves to be better than we were before coming into the school. This is because, I have witnessed a large amount of cheating that goes on in proctored examinations, sometimes to the extent that these proctors often ask you to help other students do their work. Refusal to do so brands you as a know it all.

The reason why I talk about it is that, indeed it is true that no system is one hundred percent efficient; however this honour code presents a high level of efficiency. For those who may not have reached a cognitive level where they can do the right thing, knowing that your peers; some of whom you definitely respect are around you and will do the right thing, prevents you from cheating. No one wants to be seen as a cheat in the eyes of the people they spend time with, talk to and love. I understand that the honour code may not work for everyone and I believe that we are not saying everyone should adopt it now, but we want to give it a try.

This system works for us and will continue to do so because we are a relatively smaller number and have the necessary facilities to maintain it. It can definitely work for Ghana and Africa in the long run as we move out from academia into industry. As a student body, we have decided to stand united and change the perceptions people have about us. We have opted to live in our community by upholding honour and integrity. I am applying this code not just to my academics, but to my life in general. I believe I am capable of doing what is right and that I can

hold myself and my friends accountable. I hope you will allow other students in Ghana to be inspired by the success of Ashesi's honour system.

Sincerely,

Signature

Afua Aidoo, Class of 2011.

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education

Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

20th February, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

WHAT THE HONOR CODE MEANS TO ME

The honor code is a straight forward code of conduct which we as students of Ashesi University work with. This code simply encourages us to do work without cheating but rather with complete honesty. In addition, we as students are obliged to report those who violate it. We maintain an honor code because we believe that all members of our community should be responsible for upholding the values that have been agreed upon by the community.

Academic integrity is a social responsibility, a part of community membership which is exactly the mission of Ashesi University. Personally, I have written examinations with and without the honor code. Thus being trusted has made examination less tensed, without having lecturers walk about causing distraction. As students, we are all committed to code and abide by it because we understand its importance to us as a community and as individuals who will be adding value to society and Ghana as a whole.

Sincerely,

Ahmed Moughrabi (Class 2012)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

20th February, 2010

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Sincerely,

Ahmed Moughrabi (Class 2012)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Date: 4th March,2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

My name is Akuba Boakye, a student of Ashesi University and I am writing this letter to express to you my convictions about the Honor Code of Ashesi University and communicate reasons why I think this system should be maintained in this institution.

The Honor Code is an integral part of the mission of Ashesi to produce a new breed of ethical leaders. Even though this system is new to the Ghanaian culture, I believe it is a step in the right direction because it will change our mentality by teaching us to take responsibility for our actions and the actions of our peers. The Honor Code does not mean that students are being given the opportunity to cheat but it is basically shifting the responsibility from an invigilator into the hands of the students who own their work anyway. If students cannot be trusted at this stage in their lives, how can they be trusted to handle the operations of organizations that they get into after graduation?

If this system is cancelled it will send a message to the school and the rest of the country that Ghana cannot be changed. If we really believe this, then all our development plans are vain efforts. I hope the National Accreditation Board will reconsider its directives to Ashesi University and rather help the school to create the change its mission dictates.

Sincerely,

Akuba Boakye(2010)

Cc: President, Ashesi University College
Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

17th February, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The question I have always asked myself is: "Why is Ghana the way it is today?" Open gutters, yet malaria is our number one killer. Foreign affairs, Former Presidents home, Kumasi market - burnt yet the fire service is still heavily underfunded. Several people still living under the poverty line, yet MP's are given \$50,000 car loans to buy additional cars that contribute more to global warming. This is just to mention a few of Ghana's numerous problems. Our public universities are overcrowded and our students don't have enough books that cover the most recent updates in academia. Our politicians cannot be trusted along with many other government officials.

However, the solution is what we fail to discuss (though it is the most important topic). What Ghana needs is a group of young people who are first of all motivated to bring a change. Secondly they must be well educated; understanding the principles of economics, engineering, philosophy and all other disciplines that are needed to advance a nation. Then, they must be able to trust each other and work together to build the nation. In akan it is said "Prayɔ wohoyi, wobu baakoaa ebu, woka bomuaa emmu efirisɔ yɔn nyinaa yɔyɔ baakoaa ɔyɔ". In other words, together we stand, divided we fall.

But how can we trust each other and work together if we don't have integrity, if we cannot trust our Minister to speak the truth about his Ministry's expenditure. This is the problem. We cannot trust each other to build the nation because our moral standards have fallen.

Ashesi University's Honour Code is teaching us to become that group of leaders needed to transform this country. An effective honour system simply means to me, that I can trust the opinion of my colleague knowing that he is not lying to me. In my opinion, this is one of the major elements needed to advance this nation. An honour system must be encouraged to restore that trust that is missing in our society. That trust that even prevents business partnerships that could turn into large conglomerates. An honour system is what the nation needs, it will give us hope for a better Ghana.

Sincerely,

Signature

Albert Amankwah Asiamah (Computer Science 2011)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education

Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

3rd March 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

An honour system is very important for every institution that seeks to break the circle of corruption in Ghana and in Africa. This is the reason why a pragmatic step taken by one institution to start this should not be impeded but encouraged.

Though the honour code is new in the Ghanaian Educational system where students are supervised during exams and some go to the extent of even writing for friends; this we all agree is not the right thing to do but it is being done under supervision. A solution is needed to build a country and a continent of good and responsible citizens who will stand for what is right under any circumstance.

Making students responsible for their action, to be their own invigilators is one way of solving this problem. Students compete among themselves and know each other better than the invigilators and can be better monitors. This in my opinion is what the honour code stands for.

I would therefore appeal for your reconsideration on this issue which I think will transform the social; trade and political system in Ghana and in Africa; which will help develop good citizens and people of high integrity for the continent.

Sincerely,

.....

Alhassan Baako Kambalah (2010BA)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
18th February, 2010.

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I am passionate about the honor code because it gives me a sense of responsibility. In an examination room I know that I have the responsibility of ensuring that the code is not breached and I also have the responsibility of ensuring that I do my best not to breach it myself. To me, an honor code system is a system which is meant to instill and hammer on strong moral values and principles that are inherent in an individual. Furthermore, the honor code gives me a sense of integrity. As explained above the honor code ensures that the people who sign unto the hour code behave themselves in an honorable way, i.e. Be trustworthy, responsible, and ethical. I also believe that the honor code encourages hard work. Because I know I will not be able to get help from anyone in the examination hall, I put a lot of effort into preparing for the exam so that I can get the grade I desire. After I have written the exam, I know that the results I get are a reflection of the hard work I put into preparing for the exam. It is also gives me a better assessment of how well I have understood the course for which I am being tested on because every answer provided is from my mind. I believe that the honor code creates a civil, safe and secure environment which promotes effective learning because people in that environment conduct themselves in an honorable manner especially when it is extended to all other areas of life.

More importantly, I believe that any institution in Ghana that decides to have an honor code system should not be intimidated to stop it because the system will in the long run help to eradicate the problem of corruption in Ghana and Africa as a whole. It should rather give us hope that the change that we desire has been started by a group of people who believe that promoting ethics and honorable behavior is a sure way to change Africa's current predicament. As part of the school's effort to fulfill its mission of bringing up a breed of ethical, entrepreneurial leaders in Africa, it has chosen to adopt the examination honor code system. This I strongly believe will raise leaders in Africa who believe in effecting change through ethical means. Moreover, promoting an honor code system in Ghana will strengthen confidence in Ghana and this will consequently affect international trade/relations because the perception that Africa is corrupt would have been changed to an extent. As a student, I strongly believe that it increases my chances of acquiring a job with international organizations because most of these organizations have ethics as part of their core values.

I earnestly want you to allow us to keep the honor code because it because I believe that it's a system that works. It is a clear-cut tool for positive change in any community. I hope that that the passion with which I have spoken about the relevance of an honor code to me, to Ghana and to the

entire African continent has convinced you to allow us to keep the honor code in my school. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Signature

Andria Akua Abraham,2011MIS

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education

Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
18th February, 2010.

Dear Mr. Dattey,

A LETTER

I am passionate about the honor code because it gives me a sense of responsibility. In an examination room I know that I have the responsibility of ensuring that the code is not breached and I also have the responsibility of ensuring that I do my best not to breach it myself. To me, an honor code is a system which is meant to instill and hammer on strong moral values and principles that are inherent in an individual. Furthermore, the honor code gives me a sense of integrity. It also ensures that the people who sign unto the hour code behave themselves in an honorable way that is, be trustworthy, responsible, and ethical. I also believe that the honor code encourages hard work. Because I know I will not be able to get help from anyone in the examination hall, I put a lot of effort into preparing for the exam so that I can get the grade I desire. After I have written the exam, I know that the results I get are a reflection of the hard work I put into preparing for the exam. It also gives me a better assessment of how well I have understood the course for which I am being tested on because every answer provided is from my mind. I believe that the honor code creates a civil, safe and secure environment which promotes effective learning because people in that environment conduct themselves in an honorable manner, especially when it is extended to all other areas of life.

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Sincerely,

Signature

Andria Akua Abraham,2011MIS

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education

Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

4th March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

Thank you for taking time to read this letter on my thoughts concerning the issue of the honor code system in my beloved school, Ashesi University College.

The honor code has been very important to my personal development. Prior to my education at Ashesi, I was used to a system where the only reason to be honest during exams was to avoid punishment. In order to develop holistically as an individual and attain a high level of integrity and responsibility, one must embrace systems that promote the ethical development of individuals. The entire mentality of doing right only when others are watching is not beneficial to the grooming of future leaders and for the entire society.

In order to achieve rapid economic development, our beloved country Ghana and Africa as a whole needs to go beyond the status quo of our societies. Corruption is a major issue in Africa that hampers the growth that we need so much. The honor code is very instrumental in bringing up future leaders with a high sense of responsibility and integrity. With such high ethical standards, Africa can be a better place with reduced corruption and accelerated economic development.

Currently in Ashesi University, the honor code has been implemented very successfully. Students cooperate with all the rules and regulations regarding examination conduct. As a student, when you know that everyone is watching everybody, it is even harder to consider cheating as an option. I humbly implore you to allow Ashesi to maintain the Honor Code System.

Sincerely,

Anthony Mensah-Kumah
2011 Management Information Systems

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The honour code forces students to take responsibility. This is in the sense that they become responsible for ensuring that the mission and reputation of Ashesi is kept intact. By making us responsible students we are being trained to become responsible citizens and consequently good leaders in the near future. This is why I believe the honour code should stay.

Sincerely,

Asamoah-Owusu Dennis(2012)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Date: 5th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

In my opinion, the honor code has been an instigator for hard work. This is because with the honor code you are responsible for your own work. You cannot expect help from others or to enjoy a free ride. Thus, the honor code has made me hard working.

It is for this reason of promoting hard work that the honor code will be important to Ghana. This is because any student who has gone through the code will work harder in attaining his or her goals, unlike the many individuals in our country who expect people to do things for them without making an effort to do it themselves.

The Ashesi honor code should be maintained in order to promote a hard working nation that will not feed off the effort of others.

Sincerely,

Audrey Ayamgha/ 2013/Business Administration

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The honor code is the pillar that holds Ashesi University College. The honor code is ultimately what separates this august institution from the others. To me, the honor code symbolizes a higher form of thinking that can only improve integrity in the hearts and minds of the willing academic. Ashesi seeks to sharpen our sense of integrity. What the outside world should do is to encourage the new breed.

Africa is 'brewing' into something unimaginable. Africa is the remaining part of the world that has not completed its race to structural democratic completion. Ashesi through the honor code seeks to intertwine the honor code into its students who will end up in the building process of the continent commonly called Africa 'afrique', without cold. Where is Africa going if it has no intention of placing itself into the hands of ethical entrepreneurs?

The honor code should be maintained because it is the main pillar of the school and the instrument with which its students are intrinsically sharpened to their moral best. The school seeks to break new ground.

Sincerely,

Signature

Augustus T. Arthur Jr/2012

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

February 22, 2010.

Dear Sir,

I write this letter to express my shock amidst great sadness, on the decision of the National Accreditation Board to order Ashesi University College to discontinue the culture of making its students write exams without proctors. Ashesi's honor code is a system based on integrity and students are trusted to act with high integrity thus placing on them a great responsibility of ensuring that they do not breach this system of trust.

It thus comes as surprise that, Ashesi University College instead of being supported in its quest, has been asked to terminate such a system. I have never felt so confident in myself until my admission into a school that trusts its students to the extent that it has the privilege of making them write exams without proctors. One may wonder what benefit such a system has on the development of the students as well as the country as whole.

This system of honor has changed a long time perception I had; I was previously of the view that people are naturally bad, thus likely to be corrupt. Therefore, no amount of trust placed in a person can change the way they behave. This perception is likely to be formed by a young Ghanaian who is constantly bombarded with news of people in public offices involved in corruption. This socialization thus gave me the impression that to be successful means to "blend in" and bend the rules.

Ashesi University has provided a new perspective into honor and integrity. People can actually be honest when the responsibility is placed on them and the key word here is TRUST. Administration trusts the entire student body to comply with the provisions of the honor code. This honor code has seeped to all aspects of my life and thus, things I used to do in the dark when no one is watching, I do them no more. If only half of all Ghanaian school going children could have this life transforming experience, I believe issues of people involved in corrupt practices would be things of the past. Let's look on the bright side and support a worthy cause. Ashesi University is determined to train ethical leaders and thus, the little that can be done is to help them achieve this objective. Thank you and counting on your co-operation.

Sincerely,

Bernard N.A Ghartey
Class of 2012.

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
February 22, 2010.

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I write this letter to express my shock amidst great sadness, on the decision of the National Accreditation Board to redraw the accreditation of Ashesi University College because of its adamant attitude to continue the culture of making its students write exams without proctors. Ashesi's honor code is a system based on integrity and students are trusted to act with high integrity thus placing on them a great responsibility of ensuring that they do not breach this system of trust.

It thus comes as surprise that, Ashesi University College instead of being supported in its quest, has been asked to terminate such a system. I have never felt so confident in myself until my admission into a school that trusts its students to the extent that, it has the luxury of making them write exams without proctors. One may wonder what benefit such a system has on the development of the students as well as the country as whole.

This system of honor has changed a long time perception I had; I was previously of the view that, people are naturally bad, thus likely to be corrupt. Therefore, no amount of trust placed in a person can change the way they behave. This perception is likely to be formed by a young Ghanaian who is constantly bombarded with news of people in public offices involved in corruption. This socialization thus gave me the impression that, to be successful means to "blend in" and bend the rules. The activities I would have taken with this mind set in the work place would be very damaging.

Ashesi University has provided a new perspective into honor and integrity. People can actually be honest when the responsibility is placed on them and the key word here is TRUST. Administration trusts the entire student body to comply with the provisions of the honor code. This honor code has seeped to all aspects of my life and thus, things I used to do in the dark when no one is watching, I do them no more. If only half of all Ghanaian school going children could have this life transforming experience, I believe issues of people involved in corrupt practices would be things of the past. Let's look on the bright side and support a worthy cause. Ashesi University is determined to train ethical leaders and thus, the little that can be done is to help them achieve this objective. Thank you and counting on your co-operation.

Sincerely,

Bernard N.A Ghartey, Class of 2012.

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education

Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary

National Accreditation Board

PO Box 3256

Cantonments

5th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

The honour code in Ashesi, is a system where students are trusted enough to do the right thing and invigilate themselves on an examination. This honour code, as practiced in Ashesi, goes far beyond the four corners of the examination hall and for that matter the whole Ashesi community.

We should, as Ghanaians, be able to act positively without being watched. This way, good things would done at the right time.

I believe that for as long as he lives, man will always find a right way to do the wrong thing when he is under pressure, but will do the right thing when acts on his own instincts.

Sincerely,

Adjerteh, Brandford Nii Adjei

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education

Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

THE HONOUR CODE SYSTEM: THE ESCAPE TUNNEL FROM CORRUPTION.

It is a well known fact that Ghana among several other African countries is very corrupt. For Fifty Three years since Ghana's independence, we have had many political leaders ascending to the campaign platform promising to deal with this issue of corruption. You would definitely agree with me that no progress has been made so far. I ask "are we to sit down hand between thighs and do nothing?" Definitely Not!

One night, after a hard day's work of designing computer chips a man retired to his bed. An angel of the Lord was sent to him with a message from God. The angel asked him to go back to his roots Ghana and to pioneer a cause of independence. This man is Dr. Patrick Awuah still championing the course of liberating Ghana from her self-dug pit of dishonesty even in the highest of places. Like the rod Moses had, he was given the idea of the Honour Code system as a staff for direction. That little staff would divide the Red Sea and let water out of a rock some day to come.

However, in line of duty of the National Accreditation Board this cause is being jeopardized. As a student of this great institution Ashesi University College, I plead with you Mr. Dattey and your board to pause for some time whiles the vision of the school is unveiled to you. This is the way to end the reign of corruption in Africa and conversely, we seek your support.

Sincerely,

.....

Daniel Botchway (2013)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Friday, 5th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

To me the honor code is more than just about exams. It represents a way of life, a standard of integrity which I respect and live by. I believe it is a shining example which breaks away from the status quo of corruption and malpractices that we are so used to in Africa, and Ghana. I believe in this honor code bringing up future leaders who are honest and ethical, and this is what Africa needs in order to move forward. I believe it should be maintained for all these reasons.

Sincerely,

Signature

David Edem Dotse/2013/Computer Science

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
4th March,2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

Honor Code System: The long- awaited change

Coming to Ashesi I must say is one of the greatest things that have happened to me sir. This is because it has changed my perspective about life in general. Prior to that, I never thought that people or to say students could sit in an examination without an invigilator and not cheat or misbehave. It seemed impossible to me until I experienced it. I wondered why it never happened in my senior secondary school.

Having gone through the honor code system for close to three years now, I have seen the changes in the way I approach examinations and life. I cannot say it has impacted me negatively but rather positively. Usually, I get tensed during examination and the sight of an invigilator who would get me confused because I become so conscious of the invigilator rather than my exams.

The Honor code system although seems liberal, when critically examined, it serves a dual purpose in the sense that, there are more invigilators than one may think because every student is watching out to make sure that others do not cheat. Also, each student is personally governed by the fact that he or she signed on the Honor Code System which makes the student to behave appropriately in the examination hall.

I believe that this is a beautiful thing that could happen to Ghana, a country that is trying to fight corruption and an individual that is learning to be ethical and responsible,. Many students are transferring from schools abroad to be associated with a school that believes that people can be ethical if they taught to and can live responsibly at the post conventional level where they will not be told what to do but act because they believe and know what is right.

Please, this opportunity has changed my life and I would like my young brother and sister to be enlightened too. So I am pleading that you kindly allow this System to prevail. Ghana is dear to me and I believe I can help her achieve the goal that she so much desire to achieve; that is anti-corruption and through this people can learn to be ethical. Let us all believe in this System.

Sincerely,

.....

Dede Larboki Ofei /2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Wednesday, 3rd March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

In my experience as an Ashesi student under the honor code system, I have come to appreciate its benefits. Being able to take examinations, where I am trusted on my word not to cheat, I have a greater confidence in myself. I constantly receive similar views from my colleagues.

I believe, contrary to the general notions I have heard from people outside Ashesi, that this honor code system has the potential to bring about real and tangible change in Ghana and, eventually, the African continent. This change will not be immediate, but it will definitely happen so long as we give it a chance. There is no doubt that it will neither be easy nor perfect, but its results will be better than we just sitting back and contenting ourselves with the status quo.

In view of the above, I implore the National Accreditation Board to consider the huge potential benefits of allowing Ashesi University College to continue using the Honor code system. It is working for us and can work for the nation.

Sincerely,

Delali Kojo Tsegah
2011 Year Group

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The honour code forces students to take responsibility. This is in the sense that they become responsible for ensuring that the mission and reputation of Ashesi is kept intact. By making us responsible students we are being trained to become responsible citizens and consequently good leaders in the near future. This is why I believe the honour code should stay.

Sincerely,

Asamoah-Owusu Dennis(2012)

Cc: President, Ashesi University College
Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

23rd February, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The Ashesi Honor Code System

As an aspiring transformational leader, I cannot overemphasize the trust and the responsibilities that come with the honor code system. As a student, I have been amazed at the extent to which the Ashesi Honor System has strengthened my ethical base and that of my colleagues.

This system is crucial in modeling Ghana's educated, who are going to be tomorrow's leaders. With the high level of perceived corruption among our leadership, with the exception of a few, now is the time to develop integrity-conscious leaders and that is what Ashesi is doing with its Honor System. This initiative, Sir, should be highly recommended for the change that is so crucial for our development.

It would be a great step in the right direction for our educational system if the Honor Code System is maintained. This is the turning point for Ghana and Africa's future, let's trust and build ourselves for the change that be.

Sincerely,

Derrick Darkwah (2012 Year group)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

19th February 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

Ghana is the land our fore-fathers fought and shed blood to secure for us as a legacy. In the same vein, Ashesi's founders have strived to build a university of repute based on a Liberal Arts curriculum and with the mission to train a new generation of ethical, entrepreneurial future leaders. In their view, what Ghana needs is a human resource base consisting of citizens with honor and above all, integrity. Ashesi students are being trained to be ethical, responsible and entrepreneurial leaders for the hope of a better Ghana and Africa.

The students of Ashesi are purposefully taken through a four-year regime to develop their integrity via the adaptation of an honor code for examinations. Under this system, students are required to take their examinations on their honor, i.e. without continuous invigilation. The lecturer only comes in at specific time intervals to answer any student's concerns. At the end of the exam, the student signs a declaration saying that they have neither cheated nor have they seen anyone cheat. When this declaration is left unsigned and submitted, it means that the student cheated and or saw cheating. Investigations are thus carried out and the appropriate sanctions meted out to perpetrators.

What good is a nation whose leaders have fixed mindset as against a growing mindset; whose decisions have a damaging effect on society at large; whose work-ethics are anything but good models for Ghana's present and future generations? To safeguard against this outcome, Ashesi strictly enforces its honor code principles in conducting examinations. Over the years, this method of training Ashesi students has proved very effective especially against the backdrop of the efficiency and effectiveness of Ashesi grandaunts at their various workplaces.

Ashesi's honor code should be maintained because it is worth emulating. Ashesi's alumni are positively impacting corporate Ghana and when one consciously invests in the vision of Ashesi University College and believes in its students, one will be actively contributing to Ghana's human resource capital base. A renaissance is evolving here in Ashesi; we are populating Ghana's workforce one student-with-integrity at a time.

An Ashesi education promotes and develops students' critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills. The fact that the students have collectively chosen to adhere to an honor code system not only portrays their commitment and willingness to excel in life but also it shows their love for Ghana, our

motherland. To me, the honor code system is a significant step toward building a disciplined society and achieving formidable trust and integrity among the future leaders of Ghana and of Africa.

I enjoin the NAB to give the honor code a try, if not for anything at all, at least for the hope of developing future leaders of integrity in Ghana and Africa.

Sincerely,

Diana Dayaka Osei

Diana Dayaka Osei/ Class of 2012

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

26/03/2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

When I was a child, I remember how life's useful lessons were interpreted to us through folklore. I remember very clearly one story that was always used to highlight the consequences of self-importance over responsibility for your community: that of the bird, the vine, and the tortoise. As I remember, all three inhabited the same tree; the bird with its nest in the tree's branches, the vine needing the tree to aid its climb, and the tortoise, who would lie resting in the shade of the tree. All was fine, until the bird discovered its voice, and begun to sing each day. Now the tortoise, realizing that the bird's songs though seemingly harmless, could eventually draw unneeded attention to their peaceful habitat, informs the vine: "dear friend, please do tell the bird, that these songs of his, though sweet, are going to bring trouble for all of us." And what was the vine's reply? "What do I care? This is not my problem!" And with these words, the vine went about its normal business of climbing further and further up the tree, growing quite finely.

But as fate would have it, a hunter, passing nearby, happened to hear the bird sing. Attracted by the song, the hunter makes his way to the tree, and shoots the bird. Bird dies. Now the hunter, needing something with which to tie up his catch, cuts up the vine for this purpose. Ready to leave for home, the hunter happens to chance across the tortoise; too slow to escape while all this was happening, the tortoise still lay there under the tree. So, indeed, the grateful hunter adds the tortoise to his bounty. Thus, all three members of the 'tree' community had come to an unhappy demise. As they were being carried away, the tortoise curses the vine, saying thus: "I warned you to inform the bird to keep quiet or eventually cause our peril. And you told me it was not your problem. Now you see? You have inadvertently put me in this doomed cast!"

This is the same problem that our society, particularly the Ghanaian student society, faces almost everyday. So often we stay unconcerned about what other members of our community do, forgetting that though we may be unaffected in the present, we all become stakeholders in the long run. When in an examination hall, our very own tree scenario, we hear birds sing all the time. Sometimes we are the bird, but oftentimes we are the vine. Never once, as far as all my examinations have gone, has a

student cautioned their neighbour, saying “neighbour, this song of yours, though seemingly sweet now, will lead to nothing but trouble for us. Please do stop?” For students, that is not our problem. The invigilator is in charge, and he has the duty of making sure the birds don’t sing. But of course, human as they are, sometimes the invigilators themselves turn vines, and say, “this is not my problem!” And thus, they turn the deaf ear to the birds’ songs. And whatever song the birds decide to sing is indeed not my problem also; until I find out that the Examination Council has chosen to withhold my examination results pending malpractice investigation, or even worse, cancel them. It is not my problem, until I find out that the birds who sang their way through exams all those years ago, tried singing their way through company finances, tax payments and economic policies as well, and have caused the worst economic downturn ever; causing my company to go bankrupt and putting me out of a job.

But in Ashesi, we, as students, have chosen to live beyond this norm. We have chosen, quite actively, to be our ‘brother’s keeper’. Though we start small, making sure that there is honesty in our examination halls, the possibilities are indeed, a lot bigger. To have this **HONOUR SYSTEM** removed would be indeed, telling the tortoise, “Cheating is not a student problem. Leave that to the teachers and the invigilators!” But in the end, what does it benefit us all if we, as future leaders, need to be constantly policed before we can be honest? What happens then, when we become Managing Directors, Chief Financial Officers, ministers, presidents, leaders, and we have no one to police us but our own conscience? Would our educational systems have prepared us adequately enough to make the right choices? Could we make choices that would seek to promote the greater good and not our own fat wallets and self-interests? Would we have been properly trained to, as we sing everyday in our national anthem, “**cherish fearless honesty?**” Without an honour system, I would say, the chances of this are incredibly small. This is why I **BELIEVE IN** and **SUPPORT** Ashesi’s honour code system. This is why I believe it should stay.

Sincerely,

Ebenezer Gwumah Buckman (Class of 2011)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The Honor Code at Ashesi University is one of the best things that I have come to know. It a system that helps us believe that we are capable of being honest. It empowers us to tell the truth and be honest in all areas of our lives.

The Honour Code is one reason why I feel proud to be in Ashesi University College. Please help us to be truthful in all areas of our lives.

Sincerely,

Edem Adzo Diaba(2013)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

Dear Sir,

Like all other Ashesi students, I have been informed that the National Accreditation Board, an institution of which you hold the position of Executive Secretary, would like Ashesi to terminate its honor code system. I would humbly urge you to reconsider your current position and allow Ashesi to continue with its honor code.

On a personal level, the honor code has definitely helped me become a better person. I try to make the right choices and do not cheat in exams, tests, etc. not because I am afraid I will be caught but because I do not want to disappoint those who put me in this position of self-authority. The honor code system is Ashesi's way of telling me that they believe I am worth something - that I can be trusted to do the right thing even if no one is watching.

I am not saying that it is not hard sometimes or that every college/ university in Ashesi can practice it. What I do know is that I can confidently say I would rather fail a final paper than cheat. And that is a truth I'm sure applies to every single student here in Ashesi.

I once again implore you to reconsider your decision. The future of not only an institution, but that of our dear nation lies in the balance. Thank you for taking time to read this and have a good day.

Sincerely,

Edward S. Opoku (2011)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

Like all other Ashesi students, I have been informed that the National Accreditation Board, an institution of which you hold the position of Executive Secretary, would like Ashesi to terminate its honor code system. I would humbly urge you to reconsider your current position and allow Ashesi to continue with its honor code.

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I once again implore you to reconsider your decision. The future of not only an institution, but that of our dear nation lies in the balance. Thank you for taking time to read this and have a good day.

Sincerely,

Edward S. Opoku (2011)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

04th March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I write this letter in support of the Honor Code of Ashesi University. By being part of the honor system of Ashesi, I have built up a culture of integrity in every aspect of my life. The system honor system goes beyond simply taking an exam without invigilation. It speaks to my conscience in everything that I do. The Honor code to me, means that I an honest person.

I believe that if this system is abolished, it goes against everything Ashesi believes in and all it has instilled in the student body. I therefore ask that the Honor system be maintained.

Sincerely,

Eirene A.A Sarpong, class of 2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
4th March, 2010.

Dear Sir,

WHAT THE HONOR CODE MEANS TO ME

In many ways, the honor code has changed me for the better. I have come to understand the true meaning of integrity and have realized that it does not only apply to our academic work but also to our social life. The honor code has taught me to be honest in all my endeavors and I believe that the honor code system does not only train us to do our work honestly, but it also trains us to become honest to ourselves and to the society as a whole.

We all wish to see our country progress and develop. However, this can only be achieved if every individual is changed one at a time. This is what the Honor Code is doing. It is training us to become citizens with integrity and to be honest wherever we find ourselves. I entreat you to reconsider your decision and see the Honor Code as a means to an end. To see it as a step towards helping Ghana to become a better nation.

Sincerely,

Elysia Amarteifio (2013)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
5TH March 2010

Dear Dr. Dattey,

I was very grief- stricken upon hearing that the National Accreditation Board has sent a word of caution to my school, Ashesi University College to terminate its honor-code system. One of the reasons being that Ghana is already a corrupt country and therefore cannot have a school run on an honor code system. Are we saying that we are not ready to take a step towards curbing if not totally eradicating corruption in this our beloved nation?

The use of the honor code system in universities sounded very ridiculous and absurd to me the first time I heard of it, not to think about such a system being run in a nation situated in a continent as Africa with a lot of corrupt citizens and leaders. But after gaining admission into Ashesi University College and attending several forums on the honor code my perception about it has totally changed.

The reason for the honor – code system is not only limited to examination purposes (writing examination without invigilation and turning in of student who cheat) but also to help build on our integrity and ethical behavior. It builds a society of trust. The introduction of this system into the Ashesi community is to develop a generation of honest people who do not need to be prompted to do what is right and also to train citizens not to condone evil. This I strongly believe is a virtue needed to curb the corruption in this nation.

Many people are in doubt as to whether this system really works or not. Sure, it does. Many students have been denied the privilege of continuing their education in Ashesi for violating the laws of the Honor code. I would say that just one out of a hundred is able to escape after violating this law which I know is much more efficient than a system which is run on a system which is run under invigilation during examination periods. This system the school operates on has gained Ashesi University College and its students a lot of offers from many

organizations both within and outside Ghana. This is a clear proof that the honor code is not an evil thing. It rather builds ones trust for institutions and individuals.

Corruption seems to be turning into part of the “culture” of this nation and seems to be a hopeless situation that can never be overcome. I vehemently believe that the introduction of the honor code into our educational system will be a bold step towards curbing corruption in this nation and Africa as a whole. Ghanaians are capable of living in trust and the honor code system must be allowed to operate. It is a gradual process and not a hopeless situation. This has to start from somewhere. Loyal citizens of this nation should be ready to join in the fight against this disheartening problem of corruption to redeem the reputation of this nation.

All I will humbly ask from the National Accreditation Board is to give Ashesi University College a chance to operate on the honor code system as a starting point to train the next generation of Ghana to curb corruption.

Sincerely,

Emerald Arthur/2013

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
P.O. Box 3256
Cantonments

March 3, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I came to Ashesi with the aim and vision of acquiring my degree, developing my leadership skills and becoming an upright member of the society. These are the morals and values Ashesi upholds and promotes. During my application process, I was told about the honor code system and I am extremely excited to apart of it. My first impression about the honor code was about the annihilation of corruption in Africa, considering the crippling effect it was having on the population and the development of the continent as a whole. If the honor code system is maintained it will develop our core values and obliterate the seed of corruption that damages the society; hence, producing honourable future leaders for Africa and the World. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Emmanuel Antwi Nkansah, 2013

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 3, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I believe in change. I believe that change is necessary for Ghana and Africa to step out of third world status. I believe that you at the NAB and entire country also want to see change. At Ashesi University we are not only taught to see change as important, but also to be the change we seek. So how do we effect this change? I believe that Africa needs to focus on changing mind sets of people, one person at a time. What better way can we do it than to offer an education that effects such change?

This is what Ashesi University does and is doing. By introducing an honour system under which students take exams, they are looking to instill into students a mindset that respects honour. To train students who do what they are supposed to do not just because someone has an eye on them but because they pledged on their honour that they would do the right thing. This honour system, in my view should be encouraged in other educational institutions so that the crop of students we have moving into the job sector will be a group of people that work on their honour. This will totally nip corruption in the bud.

Can we imagine a continent where we have honest workers? A Ghana where a manager is not afraid of his accountant because he trusts his word. These things are not utopian, they are very possible. It has worked in Ashesi University and if this honour system is introduced in other institutions, there are going to be more and more people who are trained to value their honour and be trusted to do what they have to do. A Ghana like this will have corruption reduced. A Ghana like this would be an example to the world.

Sincerely,

Signature

Emmanuel Apronti (Class of 2011)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

2nd March, 2006.

Dear Mr. Dattey,

HONOUR WORKS IN ASHESI

I am a third year student in Ashesi University and have had the privilege of writing exam under the honour code system for a year now.

The honour code system has encouraged me to be responsible. In my one year experience with this system, my friends and I have observed the highest level of examination discipline than I have witnessed over my three years in college.

I understand you are concerned about the greater good of the Ghanaian education system. However, Sir, I believe the honour code works on a principle of fear too. Students who sit in exam room fear that they will be reported by colleagues if they indulge in malpractice. So though there is no supervisor, there is responsibility and I believe that fellow twenty people who demand responsibility from us in the examination hall make us more disciplined than we could have been if we had just one invigilator.

The Honour code is a good balance of fear and responsibility working hand-in-hand. I believe with this, we attain greater promise of a brighter future. I hope you do too.

Sincerely,

Eric Opoku, 2011 BA

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

4th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of the Ashesi Honor Code system. The Honor Code system simply allows students to write examinations without invigilators; students are therefore obliged to look out for other students by reporting students who may cheat during an exam. Any student who cheats is also required to report themselves.

This system is good for Africa and Ghana because then individuals will do the right thing without anyone watching and will be responsible for people who do the wrong things. For instance, some drivers in Ghana tend to flout driving rules and regulations when the Police are not around. This system will go a long way to eradicate corruption; a major drawback of the African continent.

The Honor Code should therefore be maintained because it inculcates a sense of maturity in every Ashesi student by us being responsible for our actions and others as well.

Sincerely,

Ewura Adjoa Omari-Daddey (2010)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

5th March 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The honor code has instilled a great sense of discipline in me. When I came in I met a group of people who were enthusiastic about the community they joined. The honor code to me is an opportunity for Africans to change the perception the world has about us. This system instills a sense of honesty and integrity; a type that comes into play even when nobody is watching.

The conditions of our country and continent cannot change if we ourselves do not stand up and fight for a change. We have become complacent and we have accepted the fact that we are corrupt. If we change our mindset there will be a great change in our continent. Change is gradual and therefore it takes one person at a time.

What started out as a school has now trained hundreds of students with ethics, integrity and honesty that people are ready to testify to. I believe that if this continues, in due time our continent will be a better place to be.

Sincerely,

Florence Jones (2013)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
Sunday 21st February, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The Ashesi Honour Code to me is a representation of the positive direction that African Universities should be going. It is an initiative that shines a light on a seemingly hopeless continent rife with corruption and dishonesty. It gives me a chance and an opportunity to be counted and identified as an ethical leader who lives his life according to a set of rules and principles that set me apart from other Nigerians – albeit Africans. This code of honour causes me to set an exemplary standard not only in my academics but in my personal and social endeavours. This is a system of ethics, honesty and integrity that should be encouraged and not discouraged; a voice of change and progress.

Sincerely,

Ilerioluwa Olufemi Akinkugbe / 2011 MIS

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
P.O. Box 3256
Cantonments

3rd March, 2010

Dear Sir,

I am a sophomore at Ashesi University College. I applied to come to Ashesi University because of its small class sizes, high ethical standards and also because it is a highly progressive university in Africa.

I learnt much about the honour code in Ashesi University. This system puts me in the position to be responsible for myself as an individual and my colleagues. I have witnessed how the honour code has changed the mindset of my colleagues and I whether there is hope in Africa or not.

I think this is important for Ghana and Africa at large because it will inspire and train ethical leaders in Africa. Therefore I believe this is one of the few systems in Ashesi that seems to be working to put a huge responsibility into the hands of students based on what they believe and stand for as individuals.

I think it should be maintained and extended to other institutions across Ghana and Africa. I therefore hope your institution will co-operate with me on this particular request and also recognize my right to a quality education.

Sincerely,

Isaac Bruce/2012

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
P.O. Box 3256
Cantonments

3rd March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I am a sophomore year student at Ashesi University College. I applied to come to Ashesi University because of its small class sizes, high ethical standards and also because it is a highly progressive university in Africa.

I learnt much about the honour code in Ashesi University. This system puts me in the position to be responsible for myself as an individual and my colleagues. I have witnessed how the honour code has changed the mindset of my colleagues and me whether there is hope in Africa or not.

I think this is important for Ghana and Africa at large because it will inspire and train ethical leaders in Africa. Therefore I believe this is one of the few systems in Ashesi that seems to be working to put a huge responsibility into the hands of students based on what they believe and stand for as individuals.

I think it should be maintained and extended to other institutions across Ghana and Africa. I therefore hope your institution will co-operate with me on this particular request and also recognize my right to a quality education.

Sincerely,

Isaac Bruce/2012

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

2nd March, 2010.

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I am proud to be a member of the Ashesi community because Ashesi holds high the principle of integrity. To me integrity means to possess and steadfastly adhere to high moral principles that have defined by a society. The honor code helps me to exercise the definition of integrity. I hold myself and my friends accountable to the moral principles by which we subscribe to. As a result, my friends and I create a society and culture of trust where moral values and ethics reign supreme. Building such a society would leave no room for cheating.

By creating such a society, it marks a significant step in Ghana's culture where everyone can be trusted. It is a very small but bold move to create such a society. If there was more than one Ashesi in Ghana, the future can be seen to be bright because the people who are being trained in our universities will have the principle of ethics and integrity as part of their human fiber.

It is my hope that you see this move which is very small, but daring to create a culture of trust amongst Ghanaians to be very important and worth taking.

Sincerely,

Ivan Digber (2012)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 5th 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,
Maintaining the Honour Code System

I would like to take this opportunity to express some of my views and beliefs concerning the need to maintain the Ashesi University Honour Code and indeed to extend its influence. From my own experience I have realised that the Honour Code is not merely about writing examinations or other assessments without invigilators. It is a potent system for creating a high trust environment where individuals are proactive and committed to integrity and not merely passive actors.

When the Honour Code was first introduced, my class, the class of 2010 which is now the senior class graduating in June this year was sceptical about it. In fact, many of us were opposed to it and to add to that we were not even one of the classes invited to join, it was a shocking and an unpleasant experience. However, from hindsight I see that it was for the best because it sparked an earnest conversation among the class members concerning our ideals and values, when the opportunity finally came round again we bought into it and have run with it.

I believe firmly that the Honour Code system has many positive implications for this country and indeed this continent. It shows to the world our level of commitment to do the right thing. Imagine a generation of Africans who not only have the necessary skills for nation building but are fiercely determined to do the right thing whether or not they are being watched, a generation of Africans who refuse to compound Africa's challenges by condoning corrupt practices.

I would like to conclude by stating that, I also firmly believe that the NAB's current position is based on its genuine desire to promote the highest standard of tertiary education in the country and hence I am confident that the ongoing conversation on honour, integrity as it relates to the honour code will result in all stakeholders arriving at a decision which will have the interest of this great nation at heart.

Sincerely,

Joseph Ofori Amegatcher
Computer Science, Class of 2010
Ashesi University College

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
March 15th, 2010

Request to support the Ashesi Honor Code

Dear Mr. Dattey,

It brings me much honor to write to you about the adoption of the Ashesi Honor Code system. As a third year student of Ashesi University, and being part of the pioneers of the honor code, I would like to defend its importance to me, to Ghana and in deed to Africa.

Firstly, the mission of Ashesi is to “train a new generation of ethical and entrepreneurial leaders in Africa” .The honor code signifies that one’s learning in an educational institution as Ashesi has been internalized and thus based on trust where each student is accountable for ensuring that ethical behavior prevails during exams and that it is cultivated as a behavioral norm. I believe that the honor code signifies internalized trust that compels individuals to be morally upright both in character and in deeds.

The benefits of the honor code extend beyond the ethical practices in examination without invigilators. One, students develop confidence in study skills. Two, it compels students to think critically, thus develops creativity and cognitive speed. Three, students are accountable for their fellow students, and four, it bears internal satisfaction of achievement. Ghana and indeed Africa needs leaders who are trustworthy, accountable and of high internal integrity. These are the leaders who have internalized the values of trust and through scholarship and citizenship are able to lead in every aspect of their lives.

Once again, I would like you to support and subscribe to the honor code system in Ashesi University because it is an assurance of developing a new generation of ethical and entrepreneurial leaders in Ghana and in Africa. Thank you for your time and support for the Ashesi University honor code system.

Sincerely,

Joy Anthony Preston, class of 2011 Business Administration

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Date

Dear Mr. Dattey,

FRIENDLY NOTE OF CONCERN

I would first of all like to say that I respect the authority of your organisation and I applaud your interest in the affairs of Ashesi University.

Never in my life did I imagine that I would see the day that in Ghana students could take an examination without invigilators. For the first time I can take an examination without worrying about being asked for answers. My friends keep laughing and joking about how ridiculous the idea of examinations without invigilation is.

I cannot explain it but the atmosphere in the school is such that it is near impossible to degrade yourself by cheating. We sympathise with Dr. Patrick Awuah's cause. We believe that there is no such thing as corrupt people; there are only corrupt institutions/governments.

I therefore employ you to be unbiased in your evaluation of our Dear Honour Code; it means so much to us.

Sincerely,

Justice Adeenze-Kangah

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
March 3, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

WHY ASHESI'S HONOUR CODE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED

I have some political aspirations; I one day hope to be president. Why I'm mentioning this is that the honor code is currently helping me identify the most honest and competent people to be part of my government since I'm aiming for one with zero corruption. If the honor code system continues, it will eventually become part and parcel of us i.e. doing the right thing irrespective of whether or not we're being watched. This will go a long way to eradicate corruption. If Ashesi maintains it, other schools seeing the favor Ashesi gains from it will adapt it and eventually this country will be full of honest and just leaders.

Sincerely,

Kwadwo Owusu-Adjei/2013

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I believe Ashesi should maintain the honour code because it is the change Ghana and Africa needs. It inculcates integrity and discipline in future leader of Ghana and Africa. It also teaches us to operate with these values without fear even when there is opposition. As a result of these reasons I stand for the honour code.

Sincerely,

Lady-Asaph(2012)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

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Sincerely,

Lady-Asaph(2012)

Cc: President, Ashesi University College
Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

3rd March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I feel the honor code is important because it will help to bring change in Africa. The honor code promotes integrity and it will help to deal with corruption that has been going on in Ghana and Africa.

I feel that the honor code should be maintained in order to raise the reputation of Ghana. If it is maintained (the honor code), other African countries can also learn from Ghana that corruption can be dealt with.

Personally, the honor code has made me to understand that there can be change in a society if the citizens of that society change their mind set that there can be change which will have a positive effect on the society. If there is integrity in every organization, it will be of good benefit to us all.

Sincerely,

Lena Ashie-Winns (2011MIS)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

4th March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

Before I entered this institution I had little reason to believe that there could exist any place where ethics and morals could be so highly upheld, but Ashesi has shown me that it works and it can be propagated elsewhere. The framework of our culture supports a high sense of responsibility and respect.

All we needed to do was to sign a social contract that mutually benefitted us. We agreed that we needed to protect each other from the silent canker that was eating our society and we all knew that we could make change happen. We have chosen that path and I am happy to be a part of it and I hope that it reaches the farthest of our borders as something that is Ghanaian pioneered.

The honor code has given me hope to cling on to. It has given me reason to believe that in the future, be it far or near, Ghana, and Africa on the whole, will have a utopian society. Once more like in our past, traders will be able to leave their wares in the street and come back to find them; more excitingly that it began with us. We include you.

Sincerely,

Leslie Amonoo Hammond, 2012

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

5th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

WHAT THE HONOUR CODE MEANS TO ME

The Ashesi Honour Code is a system which allows students to make a pledge on their honour to abide by ethical examination practices.

It reminds me of assembly time in primary school when everybody was asked to recite the National Pledge; only now more meaningful. I say this because now I am older, wiser and more assertive about what is good and bad, or right and wrong. Also because, signing unto the honour code is not a mandatory exercise; but one that requires a personal conscientious decision. For instance, it took my class almost an entire semester to decide whether or not we were ready for such a responsibility- that is, not only to conduct ourselves properly during exams but also to hold our peers to the same standard. During the decision-making process, we as a class walked through the meaning of morality and ethics and the summary is this: Being ethical means doing the right thing even when no one else is watching.

That is what the honour code truly means to me. And if I may be honest, being a realist, I doubted its practicability at first; but it works. Now, I do not feel like the black sheep when I speak to my friends about honour and integrity- we all get it- we are all in on it- we took the oath together. Now during exams, if there are any whispering or distracting gestures, all anybody has to say is "Remember the honour code" and it stops. Why? Because we have been made to know that our word is our truth; and if we do not keep to this truth, then who are we? I am sure the great fathers of this nation had the same thing in mind when the idea of a National Pledge was instituted.

I am therefore pleading with you on behalf of the student body not to take this away from us. We feel good about it. We stand out because of it (unfortunately). And we walk with our heads held high because we truly believe in it. I hope that in my own small way, I have managed to convince you to reverse your decision on our Honour System.

Counting on your usual co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

Nana Ama Akosa

(Student member, Class of 2010)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education

Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Date: 2nd March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The Ashesi honour code system is a system where students are entrusted with the responsibility of doing the right thing with or without anyone watching. The honour code of Ashesi is translated into a lot of things including writing examinations without an invigilator. This means a lot to me because it has taught me to be honest, have integrity and be self independent. If everyone person in Ghana can do the right thing without anyone looking at them then I think that it is a step in the right direction. This system is aimed towards training students to be ethical and have integrity and this can help to fight the issues of corruption that is prevailing in our country at the moment.

Sincerely,

Linda Ogbedei Laryea , Class of 2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

5th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

I was happy about coming to Ashesi University because, it was going to help me be myself in a much better way. Coming to a school that held the ethics and moral of individual work in high esteem, I was sure that I did not have to be on the lookout during exams especially for friends whispering at me or looking on my work. I was trained to do my own work in school and I believe Ashesi is just the place to add to the moral of not cheating in exam, with the responsibility of this action.

The honor code to me is just the words being spoken by the Ghana Education Services and all the other academic institutions in terms of not supporting cheating in exams. Examinations are meant to test our ability to comprehend what you have been taught as a student. The honor code is there to help you enhance this process. I do not disagree with the National Accreditation Board on the fact of Ghana being a young developing country experiences a level of corruption. But I beg to defer again with the view that every great man or woman, like every country starts from some point by experiencing change.

The change in my perspective is that which Ashesi University College is offering to start training ethical leaders who can on their own be uncorrupted and truthful to themselves and their nation as a whole. I am saddened by this view of the board on the honor code because, we are all not allowing ourselves to be exposed to the fact that, Ghana in the 1940's had no democracy; but now, about fifty-three years down the line, we are one of the greatest African examples of democracy not just to our continent but the entire world. I believe that the board should allow this code to rule and believe in its success, because we the current generation admire and want change of which this is an example.

In conclusion, I would like to commend the board on thinking African today, but kindly edge them to think African and Ghanaian tomorrow; which would need uncorrupt and honest leaders that we all can trust. Ghana and Africa need a massive change and I believe strongly in me that a part of it starts from Ashesi University College and its current practice of the Honor Code.

Sincerely,

MAOOA

Maame Abena Owusua Owusu-Acheaw / 2012 / Business Administration.

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

5th March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

THE ASHESI HONOR CODE AND ITS RELEVANCE TO ME

The Ashesi Honor code system is a system that I will consider to be a parent trying to wake up his children to do their morning duties. The mission of this system is to create a sense of responsibility among students. This has the long term effect of creating leaders who are not corrupt and will not spend state resources if there is no one to audit them. What a great country we will have!

However, we need to start from somewhere. I am glad to be among students who will not cheat during an examination while expecting others to do same. Besides, the system is a social contract that has rules governing it. If you are caught cheating, there are serious implications.

I consider this system of conducting examination even more efficient than having lectures as invigilators because it makes every student an invigilator.

I will like this system to be maintained and expanded to other universities in the country for its achievable good intensions.

I am counting on your co-operation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Manu Mac-Anthony
(Class of 2013)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

"Academic integrity, moral and ethical conduct, and pride of membership in a community that values academic achievement and individual responsibility" ("Mission and Vision", University of Colorado). This statement is what the examination honour code means to me. This policy has done a lot of good to all students of Ashesi University. Indeed, it might be difficult to believe it, but we have really succeeded in abiding by the honour code for each and every examination that we have taken (including quizzes and assignments).

We live in an era in which brilliant, honest, ethical future leaders are needed to positively make a strong impact on African governance and management. If the concepts of integrity, moral and ethical conduct are to be taught and maintained in every educational institution, you can imagine the number of future Ghanaian or African leaders who will be willing and able to put aside their personal interest and hence seek and promote the welfare of their nation.

Stopping the examination honour code from being applied in our institution means to destroy the foundation for lifelong integrity, and failing to get the appropriate "insight to make difficult choices and accept responsibility for actions and their consequences, even at personal cost" ("Mission and Vision", University of Colorado). It also means to continue encouraging academic dishonesty and tarnishing the very nature of the Ghanaian culture which itself aims at promoting candour, human dignity, unity and peace.

Thus, I beg you to reconsider the option of stopping the application of the code of honour in our institution; so that we may definitely succeed in building a peaceful and successful nation, as the honour code policy will "make us cherish fearless honesty".

Sincerely,

Marie-Stephanie Mockey/Class of 2011 MIS

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

4th March 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I had the privilege to be around when the honor code was implemented; in fact I have been operating **critical thinking skills** under the honor code for the past three years. Initially there was much speculation about how viable such a system would be, however, the system worked and has been working effectively for the past three years. It has challenged me as an individual morally and ethically and I am certain that it is more effective than having invigilators present in an exam hall. This is because everyone becomes more alert and careful about how they comport themselves in the exam hall and the truth is that fifty pairs of eyes are better than one.

History has shown that whenever there is a fight for more righteousness or goodness in the world there is always some form of opposition. Achieving perfection is a lifetime process. However, it first begins with one person that is willing to challenge societal norms. Sometimes we witness so much evil and negativity prevailing around us that we end up settling for it as normal, believing that 'that is just how it is and how it always will be'. If Martin Luther King would have had this sort of mentality would we be free? If women didn't stand up for equal rights would we even have the opportunity right now to actually have an education? If God himself had this mentality, would we have salvation?

The mission of Ashesi is "*to educate a new **generation of ethical, entrepreneurial leaders in Africa; to cultivate within our students, the concern for others and the courage it will take to transform a continent...***"

My name is Marleen Anmortsoo Mensah, I believe in the honor code, I believe in the ability and desire human beings have to make the right choices and I believe in the mission of Ashesi not just for myself but for my country and continent as a whole. Let us not be at 'war' with ourselves but at 'war' with the cankers within our society that obstruct us from growing and becoming the powerful and fruitful nation that God intended for us to be. If you believe in this, then come join us.

Sincerely,

Marleen A. Mensah/ 2011BA

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

Ashesi University
PMB CT3 Cantonments
Accra

18-02-2010

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Dear Mr. Dattey,

In August 2007, I enrolled in Ashesi University to pursue my college education. I made this choice for a reason – I wanted to become a better person. I wanted an education that would not only endow me academically, but also help me develop the values that will make me a more responsible member of society.

I understand that the hard work of the influential – our teachers and consultants; our nurses and media practitioners; our farmers and politicians – cannot transform our society if they are not built on the values of ethics and integrity.

I believe that this is not a contest between Ashesi and the NAB, because we are partners. And the only reason, I think, the NAB exists is to make sure that, through education our society can be better. And that is our dream at Ashesi too.

The honor code embodies our resolve to pursue our academic goals in an honest environment. I want to belong to a society in which people have a moral obligation to do what is right; where we don't need a 'big brother' to do the right thing. That is why I stand for the honor code.

Sincerely,

Melvin Akaba, class of 2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

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Sincerely,

Melvin Akaba, class of 2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
P.O Box 3256
Cantonments

4th February, 2010

Dear Sir,

The honor code to me is one of the best things that could happen in any institution that intends to reach greater heights in excellence. The effect of implementing this system could either be seen consciously or unconsciously.

If we as a country would like to fight corruption, then I think we need to start from somewhere – our schools. The upcoming government officials and leaders of tomorrow need to start appreciating the importance of a corruption free society, strong ethical and moral standards, integrity and to mention but a few. Such a goal cannot be achieved until a giant step has been taken, a step that would defy all odds and survive any magnitude of doubt. Ashesi University as part of its contribution to society, Ghana and Africa as a whole, introduced the honor code system to help build a better Ghana by grooming its leaders to be ethically morally responsible.

Maintaining the honor code system indicates a brighter future for Ghana and Africa, which could if not obliterate issues of corruption, curb it to a greater extent. In the end, Ghana stands to benefit from this. It is for this reason that I would humbly urge the National Accreditation Board to reconsider its actions against Ashesi University and look at the bright side of the school's initiative.

Sincerely,

Michael Boadi
2011MIS

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

4th March, 2010.

Dear Sir,

THE HONOUR CODE SYSTEM

I write this letter with much sorrow and disappointment. I must admit that I was surprised at the news about NAB's directive to end the Honor code system in Ashesi. The Honor Code System is not harmful in any way but rather does our small community a lot of good. I can understand your doubts but I cannot understand your lack of optimism. For me, the code represents trust and integrity in students.

Granted, there is likelihood for us to cheat but that has been checked by making us supervisors of each other. Yes, we do check ourselves. I think we should rather be looking at how to improve the honor code system and not halt it. It would do Ghana and Africa for that matter a lot of good to adapt a similar code of ethics. It is high time we checked our future leaders and encourage integrity among them. The first step to doing this is by trusting that young people such as us, Ashesi students, are capable of being honest. That is exactly what Ashesi University is offering us with this honor code system and we intend to fully live up to expectation.

I am all for the honor code system and I plead with you to reconsider your line of action against us ('us' because we represent the honor code system). For me, Ashesi's honor code system should be maintained simply because it says clearly what I have been screaming inside me. "I am honest! I have integrity! I can be a trustworthy leader! I live by the honor code system!"

Thank you and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Naa Aku Tackie.
Class of 2013.

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Min
ister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Date 5th March 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

WHY THE HONOUR CODE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED

I deem it a great opportunity to write this letter to you, with great urgency. I am Naa Ayelelsa Quaynor Mettle, a first year student who strongly supports the honor code.

I was firstly introduced to the honour code system when I enrolled and gladly signed to be a part of it when a team from the continuing students explained what it meant. In my view, this system does not only ensure that students do not cheat in examinations in the absence of an invigilator. It goes beyond that. It makes students think ethically about all the actions they carry out, a vital tool which is essential; a must have for prospective future leaders and Africa in the making.

Ashesi University College, according to its mission statement seeks to “educate a new generation of **ethical, entrepreneurial** leaders of Africa... to cultivate... the courage it would take to transform a continent...” In attempt to achieve this goal, the honour code system was introduced.

The honour code contributed to the high profile and recognition Ashesi has on the International market. Furthermore, statistics has shown that the implementation of the honour code system has contributed to record breaking number of graduates who get employed into corporate Ghana and multinational corporations. Furthermore, as a result of the honour code system which trains students to develop great integrity it further contributed to the John P. McNulty Prize Ashesi won last year November.

I strongly believe that the honour code is good for Ashesi, would benefit Ghana and Africa as a whole in the near future. Change must start from somewhere and it is starting from here, Ashesi University College; with the introduction of the Honour Code

Sincerely,

.....

Naa Ayelelsa Quaynor-Mettle (2013) Business Administration .

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Date

Dear Mr. Dattey,

Kindly write on at least one of these topics:

- What the honor code means to me
- Why I think it is important for Ghana and for Africa
- Why Ashesi's honor code should be maintained

Sincerely,

Signature

Student name/Year group

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

5th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

WHAT THE HONOUR CODE MEANS TO ME

The Ashesi Honour Code is a system which allows students to make a pledge on their honour to abide by ethical examination practices.

It reminds me of assembly time in primary school when everybody was asked to recite the National Pledge; only now more meaningful. I say this because now I am older, wiser and more assertive about what is good and bad, or right and wrong. Also because, signing unto the honour code is not a mandatory exercise; but one that requires a personal conscientious decision. For instance, it took my class almost an entire semester to decide whether or not we were ready for such a responsibility- that is, not only to conduct ourselves properly during exams but also to hold our peers to the same standard. During the decision-making process, we as a class walked through the meaning of morality and ethics and the summary is this: Being ethical means doing the right thing even when no one else is watching.

That is what the honour code truly means to me. And if I may be honest, being a realist, I doubted its practicability at first; but it works. Now, I do not feel like the black sheep when I speak to my friends about honour and integrity- we all get it- we are all in on it- we took the oath together. Now during exams, if there are any whispering or distracting gestures, all anybody has to say is "Remember the honour code" and it stops. Why? Because we have been made to know that our word is our truth; and if we do not keep to this truth, then who are we? I am sure the great fathers of this nation had the same thing in mind when the idea of a National Pledge was instituted.

I am therefore pleading with you on behalf of the student body not to take this away from us. We feel good about it. We stand out because of it (unfortunately). And we walk with our heads held high because we truly believe in it. I hope that in my own small way, I have managed to convince you to reverse your decision on our Honour System. Counting on your usual co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

Nana Ama Akosa/Student member, Class of 2010

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

5th March, 2010

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Yours faithfully,

Nana Ama Akosa

(Student member, Class of 2010)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education

Director, GES

Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
Date: 5th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

Because of the honor code I have realized how wonderful it is to be able to claim work as your own and know that it is your own. It makes a person feel like he or she has been able to achieve something. Cheating has become a thing of the past in my life and I see the same thing in my peers. Through the honor code, I am able to present work knowing I did it myself and have become used to going the extra mile to finish my assignments since I do not expect anyone to hand in work for me to claim as my own.

The honor code is very important to the Ghanaian community because people in this country enjoy claiming what is not theirs hence deceive their managers, co-workers ,etc until they are found out. Finally, people will become more honest since they will get accustomed to giving credit to others where necessary and not claiming what is not theirs.

The Ashesi honor code would be maintained so that Ghana will become a place known for honesty and integrity.

Sincerely,

Signature

Nana Konadu Darko- Mensah (2013) Management Information Systems

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

5th March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

APPEAL TO THE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD.

It is of great concern and worry that the National Accreditation Board has suddenly requested that we revoke the honor code system that is currently practiced in Ashesi University College. It is even more alarming to know that the reason behind this proposal is that all Ghanaians are corrupt. With all due respect, this is not a reason for us to stop practicing the honor code system, for instance someone cannot say that I should stop being honest because everyone else is a liar.

The national accreditation board is asking for the exams taken in this school to be proctored under the assumption that there is not going to be cheating. If there has to be an invigilator to prevent cheating, how sure are you that there will be no cheating when the proctor leaves the room for a few minutes; the request of the national accreditation board should be thought through carefully. As a student of Ashesi, I propose that the honor code should be maintained because it is a big step taken by Mr. Patrick Awuah towards excellence.

It must be recalled that a journey of a thousand miles always begins with a step; the presence of the honor code system must be viewed as a step towards a transformed Africa. This first step towards a transformed Africa has been taken by Ashesi and I believe other colleges should take steps in the same direction as well.

Sincerely,

Odoi Emmanuel Delsai-Ofoli

Cc: Chairman of the NAB

Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

MY THOUGHTS – OKYEAME SARFO (CLASS OF 2009)

I did not believe in the Honour Code System. I thought it would not work for the following reasons:

- I thought our system was too corrupt to have students write exams on their own.
- I thought our moral standards were too low to ever think of exams, quizzes, or a life without being dishonest.
- I thought there was no way possible to change our mind set after going through basic level education and being encouraged at times to help our friends during exams, quizzes and tests.

But guess what? I thought wrong.

When the Ashesi Honour Code was instituted, my class was asked not to sign on to it because we were not ready. Well, I guess they had a point and I was indifferent. But after almost a year of completion, I realized how the honour code has helped shape my life (even though I did not sign on to the Honour Code, and still have not signed on to it). I have come to the realization that, individuals who do not believe in a system, when put into it will naturally fail. But people who are indifferent, when put into a system that works – like a social contract, will conform over time.

The Honour Code gives you enough room to be honest and when you fail, the system takes you out. Your conscience will always be your final judge. Knowing very well that, you are in a system that frowns on cheating – you will either change and adapt or quit, better still, the system will catch up with you and in this case, you will be sent home.

Lots of people in my year group would not believe I am writing this piece – just because I opposed the Honour Code's method of implementation. That is normal. But once I have seen it work, I believe it will work in other institutions too. As a former Judiciary and Electoral Committee chairman, I sat on a couple of cases that were connected to cheating, dishonesty and other vices and based on evidence and sometimes student's confessions, I realised that the Honour Code has come to stay.

You know what? Sometime back, cheating in class and outside was fun and ok. And we could discuss how we cheated and how smart we were able to outwit invigilators and all. But when the Honour Code was implemented and I understood the concept, I stopped cheating, came to the realization that, to be honest is not by word of mouth but rather by our daily dealing with friends, family and acquaintances.

Honesty, like religion, is a way of life, believe in it. Let's not allow corruption to be a cancer that cannot be eliminated. But let our lives be like the liver which is the only self-

healing organ in our bodies. Let's give a set of people the chance to do what is right, especially when they have decided and chosen to do so. Let's learn from nature and we will be better-off. The creator has a reason why he made it so. Nature uses its own force to cure and heal defects and wrong doings.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Okyeame Sarfo', with a small circular mark to the right.

Okyeame Sarfo
Class of 2009

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 5, 2010

Dear Sir,

The Ashesi University College Honor code system is one great idea, which I for one have seen it work and think will forever work. Honestly I had my doubts just like anyone would normally, because we come from a background where we always had invigilators monitoring us during an examination. The invigilators here fall into the category of armed policemen, retired teachers, working teachers, national service personnel and sometimes students.

Well to tell you the truth what the honor code does is that it inculcates into you responsibility and a sense of purpose. It fulfills the bedrock of our value system in Ghana, which frowns upon cheating and dishonesty. This therefore makes you understand that when you cheat in an examination you do not only hurt yourself but in the long run hurt mother Ghana as a whole. This may come in the form of disgrace when one is exposed in an act of bribery and corruption within or outside Ghana.

I believe when the sense of responsibility is embedded into our hearts and minds and we no longer have the feeling to cheat in an examination it would cut across all spheres of our lives thus eradicating corruption and bribery in Ghana and Africa entirely. I am sure you would agree with me that bribery and corruption forms a vicious cycle of poverty, armed robbery and other social vices.

When Ashesi's honor code is maintained, I strongly believe other universities here in Ghana will follow suit and together produce honest and trustworthy graduates who would in turn transform Ghana and Africa to a continent rich with human resource who can manage their resources efficiently and effectively and exterminate all social canker in Africa. Another salient point I would like to add, is that Ghana would not only be seen as model for *democracy* in Africa but a *hallmark* of **honesty**. Thank you.

Sincerely,

pk@

Paa Kwesi Asuamah Thompson/ 2010/Computer Science

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

22-02-10

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I am a student of Ashesi University College, a sophomore to be specific. Recently, we the students were informed about your outfit's intention to abrogate the Honor Code System practised in our school. Upon hearing the news, the question that came into mind was why the honor code not be implemented? Below are some of the reasons why the Honor Code should be allowed to function.

The main reason for the honor code is to produce students who will exhibit competence always in their work places without any supervision. Though, this system is new in Ghana and some people would argue that most Ghanaians are corrupt hence, it cannot function effectively. I believe that so far so good in terms of the implementation. Unlike examinations in which maximum number of five people is made to invigilate, the honor code system makes every candidate an automatic invigilator. Devoid of any prejudices, an anonymous person may write your name if found cheating and being conscious of the kind of punishments meted out; every student strives to exhibit high degree of integrity.

Please, I am appealing that instead of the honor code system being prevented from functioning, the school should be allowed to maintain it whilst ensuring strict enforcement. I believe that if this is done, not only will Ashesi produce students that will be able to work effectively without any supervision; the people who would have done the supervision could utilize their time on something more profitable. There is a saying that "time is money." Thank You.

Sincerely,

Paul Akwasi Asante.

Signature

Year group

2012

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
04.03.10

Dear Mr. Dattey,

It is unfortunate the Honor code adopted by Ashesi is not widely received by the National Accreditation Board. As a signatory to this code, I believe its implementation is a confirmation and a reassurance of Ashesi's values and pillars. We believe in integrity, scholarship and citizenship, and nothing prepares us (students) best than the honor code.

Personally, the honor code system made me wake up daily knowing I can trust 99% of my colleagues at Ashesi with my business because of how astute and hardworking they have evolved into. Ethics is never compromised in Ashesi and that is something I rarely see outside school.

Sincerely,

phillip.coffie.dzisenu

Signature

Philip Coffie Dzisenu

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

5 March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

Appeal to Support the Ashesi Honour Code

I am privileged to write you this letter to explain why you should aid, support and sustain the implementation of the Honor Code in Ashesi University.

The Ashesi Honor Code System is a structure that has been designed to hold each individual in Ashesi University responsible for ethical behavior, especially during examinations. Ashesi University has implemented a new system that trains students to be responsible, trustworthy and encourages them to live their lives accordingly.

As a third year student of Ashesi University and part of the year group that pioneered the implementation of the Ashesi Honour Code, I would urge you to support this system because my colleagues and I have learnt how to study on our own, earn our grades in a respectable manner and have created a community governed by our responsibilities to each other. This is because we believe that our efforts, be them physical, educational or social are being evaluated under a fair and objective process.

Ashesi's mission is to train a new generation of ethical and entrepreneurial leaders in Africa and I am fully determined to be a part of this mission by exhibiting the ethical values I have acquired as a student here. Prospective leadership in Ghana and Africa needs to acknowledge the Ashesi Honour code and its values of scholarship, leadership and citizenship in order for true development.

Thank you for taking time off your busy schedule to read this letter. My university looks forward to your support and cooperation in sustaining the implementation of the Ashesi University Honour Code System.

Sincerely,

Phoebe Selassie Acolatse, Class of 2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

I Rachelle Elodie Konan call on your kind amiability not to eliminate our precious Honor Code. I voluntarily signed on to the Honor Code in the year 2008 because it means **responsibility, honesty and integrity**. The Honor Code has not only impacted my academic environment but also my personality by doing what is right wherever I am. I believe that the Honor Code must serve as a tool to promote good governance in Ghana and Africa, hence reduce corruption, dishonesty and many more.

Sincerely,

Rachelle Elodie Konan/2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

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Sincerely,

Signature

Rachelle Elodie Konan/2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 5, 2010

Dear Sir,

To be fair, everyone knows the corruption based in Ghana and Africa as a whole. And as we believe that we, the children and youth, are the future it is only right for us to start change NOW. In my view, the honor code is the most important aspect to build integrity in us for tomorrow.

Before I came to Ashesi University, I did not think cheating in examinations was a big deal but being taught the spirit of integrity and how it can affect Africa in the short and long run, I had no other reason but to rightly agree with the honor code because we believe in our country and we can make the difference. And hence I think it should be maintained here in Ashesi.

Thank you very much for your time and effort in reading this. I hope you be on the same page as I am.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Maame Inkumsah (2012)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

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Rebecca Maame Inkumsah (2012)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation board
P O Box 3256
Cantonments

Date 4th March 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

Ashesi University College
No. 87, Norla Street Extension
PMB TC3 Cantonments
Accra-Ghana

IMPORTANCE OF HONOUR CODE

Following recent news that your outfit intended terminating the existence of the honour code referendum in Ashesi University College, I deemed it urgent to add my voice to the issue considering the invaluable contribution this code has for Ghana in particular and Africa as a whole. For instance, my mind as a Ghanaian and African, until admission to Ashesi, was enslaved in such a way that I thought such principles like trust, independence, and ethical leadership were not things that would ever become important guiding principles in the lives of Africans. However, after a few years in Ashesi, my mental enslavement has been freed. This is because I realized that some Africans were already living by those principles while more attempts were being made to internalize them to the unfortunate ones like me.

I strongly believe that the honour code is one of best ways of instilling the principles of trust, independence and ethical leadership not only to Ashesi students, but also to their families, their potential organizations and above all, to their respective countries through the students. Thus it is important that, as efforts of this nature are being made to instill a changed leadership characteristic in our new African generation, no attempts should be made to discourage the people making the efforts.

It is therefore, my prayer and hope that the honour code would be allowed to stay so that other potential Ashesi students, who are also in the same position like I was in before admission to Ashesi, will also have their minds changed partly through the honour code.

Sincerely,

Richard Azumbil Kpelimnyanba

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

March 5, 2010.

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The honour code to me as an individual is more than a practice in the exam hall in the absence of a proctor. It confers responsibility on me as an individual to maintain the highest ethical standards at all times whether at an exam hall or not. The honour code makes me feel my sense of worth as an individual because a huge responsibility is entrusted to me. It is something I believe in and have come to stand for as a student of Ashesi University and as a Ghanaian.

I believe that the honour code is a great leap towards the eradication of corruption in this country. I long to see a time where this country will be void of corruption and I am certain that many young people my age share the same dream. The honour code is a step in this direction.

Sincerely,

Rita Otopea Osiakwan

Rita Otopea Osiakwan (2013).

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

4th March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

THE HONOR CODE SYSTEM

The Honor Code of Ashesi is a personal conviction as an individual to do the right when no one is watching, threatening or rewarding you. It is not merely signing a pact or agreement to remain faithful to yourself in an examination; it goes beyond that. Personally, writing an examination without an invigilator confers on me the trust, dignity and a sense of fulfillment that I truly deserve at this stage in life. Right there in an examination room, you become a leader, you are ethical and you declare a stance; that is what Ashesi is about and that is what Ghana needs.

Sincerely,

Rosemond Adjei-Baah, 2011

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

Date: 5th March, 2010

Dear Sir,

The Ashesi honor code is the reason why I am a more responsible person. Through my high school, I was already used to a system where students were encouraged to be honorable. The Ashesi honor code has further increased this good habit because the code encourages each individual to be responsible for his/her own life. This is because nobody would expect another person to do work for another and allow the other to claim it as their own. It pushes people to put in utmost effort into whatever they are doing since they do the work themselves.

The honor code is very important to the Ghanaian society because people in this country, people do not take responsibility for their actions. Through the honor code people will feel more responsible for their work, knowing they will not be able to get shortcuts around completing exercises. This way, corruption in the country could even reduce.

The Ashesi honor code should be maintained in order to promote a more responsible nation. This way, people will consider their actions before they take them.

Sincerely,

Selase Dela-Brown/ 2013/Management Information Systems

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
4th March, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

THE HONOUR CODE SYSTEM: OUR HOPE, OUR FAITH, OUR FUTURE.

It came as a great shock to me that the National Accreditation Board though it wise to stop the running of the Honour Code System. I asked myself what the Honour Code meant to me and many positive things flooded my mind. The Honour Code signifies the dawn of a new era in Ghana, Africa and the world as a whole. It signifies the age of a new kind of leader, a new kind of employer, a new kind of entrepreneur, a new kind of mother, in essence a new crop of human beings released into Ghana and the world at large.

We who have the honour and privilege of working in an institution run by the Honour Code System are filled with a sense of hope, faith and gratitude because every day, practicing the Honour Code and living under it, Patrick Awuah, faculty and staff of Ashesi University College tells us the student body that, they know and believe that we are capable of changing the status quo. They believe that we can be better than our fathers; we can be people who are trustworthy, people of integrity and honour. They in short tell us that we are better than our society thinks us to be.

So why I wonder, will the National Accreditation Board want to take away this hope that we have for Africa, this chance that Africa will be able to lose the title of being a continent of corruption. If we Ghanaians do not have faith in our ability to be people of integrity, people who can be trusted then what do we expect the outside world to think.

I conclude by saying that in ending the Honour Code System we are not just ending one university's practices but we are ending the movement to bring Ghana and the African continent from its state of disrepute. So I say implore that instead of working against us it will do us all tremendous good if you stand with us in our quest to make Ghana, Africa and the world a better place for us and the generations to come. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Signature

Selasi Ewurabena Ahema Tsegah (2013)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University College

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments
4th March, 2010

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Sincerely,

Selasi Ewurabena Ahema Tsegah (2013)

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President, Ashesi University

The Executive Secretary
National Accreditation Board
PO Box 3256
Cantonments

3rd March 3, 2010

Dear Mr. Dattey,

The Ashesi honor code should be maintained because it seeks to instill a sense of honor and integrity in the students who are future leaders of Africa. It is an undeniable fact that there is corruption in Africa but are we going to sit unconcerned and do nothing to stop corruption on our continents? No! Edmund Burke says "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." I would plead with all authorities involved to support Ashesi in its quest to create a generation of ethical and entrepreneurial leaders for Africa, by allowing the honor code to continue to operate because together we can fight corruption.

Sincerely,

Sophia Kafui Teye- Class of 2010 BA

Cc: Chairman of the NAB
Minister of Education
Director, GES
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast
President of Ashesi University College