

# Blue Key Honor Plan Stated

In accordance with the student constitutional requirement that amendments must be published in The Cluster before being presented to the student body, the honor system proposal drawn up by Blue Key is hereby printed.

**PREAMBLE**

We, the students of Mercer University, assert that whenever we stand upon honor and personal integrity, we possess and exercise the inalienable right to govern ourselves without let or hindrance.

We hold, furthermore, that self-government according to honor is government in its best form. We believe that by preferring honorable initiative to enforced conformity we gain an experience of citizenship that is invaluable to efficient American democracy.

Therefore to maintain a social organization that is conducive to free initiative, self-guidance, and character development—and so to achieve the true purpose of education—we do hereby ordain and establish the following constitution and government of the students of Mercer University.

(Change Article II, Section 1, paragraph (e) to read as follows)

The duties of the Student Council, as distinguished from the Honor Council, shall be to interpret and enforce the regulations of this Constitution, except where such power is otherwise specifically delegated; to act as an advisory board to the president of the student government; and to ratify all class laws, rules, and regulations.

(Subhead 3, under paragraph (d) Section 2, Article I, shall be deleted)

(Article V shall be changed to read as follows)

**ARTICLE V**  
**Honor System**

Since no person can make another person honest, and since honor cannot be realized except through individual preference, the Honor System of Mercer University recognizes this nature of character by making each student free to follow his own judgment. Without the conscious reference to honor there can be no independence, for as the poet says, "The scoundrel and the dark rebel in vain, slaves by their own compulsion."

Each time an individual accepts the invitation to regulate his own life according to honor, and to supply himself with directions for his own work-program, the Honor System is a success. For such students there is no need for espionage or police regulation. Such devices do not help and must not hinder one who is going freely and honestly about his own business.

Each time the freedom is misunderstood, and the opportunity abused, the case becomes a matter of social concern. No student can be permitted by neglecting his own welfare to blemish the standing of Mercer University, and jeopardize the efficiency of self-government on this campus.

The only requirement a Mercer student must fulfill is to live in harmony with other independent students. There are no specific regulations. If he loves honesty, originality, and self-reliance, he will not be in need of rules against any form of ungentlemanly conduct.

**SECTION I**  
**Honor Council—Membership**

(a) The Honor Council shall be composed of a president elected from the College of Arts and Sciences at large and four other regular members elected by the students of the College of Arts and Sciences.

(b) Candidates for membership on the Honor Council must have been in attendance at Mercer for at least four quarters exclusive of summer school attendance prior to date of election.

(c) Students for these offices shall be elected by the College of Arts and Sciences by popular ballot on Thursday of the fifth week in the winter quarter, and shall assume office with the other student body officers.

(d) The members of the Honor Council shall be elected for a term of one year, and may stand for re-election.

(e) The officers of the Honor Council shall be duly elected president, and a clerk elected from and by the members of the Honor Council.

(f) Membership in the Honor Council shall not constitute credit for entrance in any student organization.

**SECTION II**  
**Honor Council—Duties**

(a) The Honor Council shall be charged with a dual responsibility. It shall sponsor and sustain an adequate program of interpretation for the education of new students in the opportunities for individual initiative, personal good judgment, and unqualified self-direction. Also, whenever cases of infraction of the Honor System and of dishonorable conduct occur, the Honor Council shall serve as a tribunal for the determination of guilt and for the meting out of appropriate penalties.

(b) It shall be the duty of the president of the Honor Council to preside over the Council, and to sign all decrees of the Council.

(c) It shall be the duty of the clerk of the Honor Council to keep a record of all decrees of the Council; to notify all members of the Council of meetings thereof; at the close of his term, to deliver the permanent records of decrees of the Council into the custody of the clerk-elect of the Honor Council; and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Council.

(d) (1) In all cases the Honor Council shall be the sole judge of the qualifications of its members, and it shall require a majority vote of those present to disqualify a member.

(2) No member of the Council shall

serve during the trial of himself, his roommate, social fraternity brother, or kinsman.

(e) In the event that a member is temporarily disqualified or permanently disabled, such as withdrawal from school, said member shall nominate his successor who must meet with the unanimous approval of the Honor Council so that a full membership of five can be maintained in all cases.

(f) Five members of the Honor Council must serve in each case.

(g) The Honor Council shall have the power to formulate any other rules and regulations necessary for carrying out their duties so long as they do not conflict with the provisions contained in the Constitution.

**SECTION III**  
**Reporting of Infractions**

(a) Each student, in order to show his concern for the maintenance of free initiative on the campus, is expected to call the organized attention of the Honor Council to every instance in which the induction of a student into adult, responsible independence remains incomplete.

(b) Any member of the Honor Council, after being informed of a breach of the Honor System, shall notify the clerk of the Honor Council who in turn shall immediately call a meeting of the Honor Council.

**SECTION IV**  
**Trial Procedure**

(a) All deliberations of the Honor Council shall be conducted in absolute secrecy.

(b) The Council shall observe the strictest impartiality in all its actions, seeking always to carry out the spirit of the Honor System.

(c) In all cases the accused shall have the right to know the nature of the charge presented against him, and to hear all evidence as read from the record. Further, the accused shall have the right to have witnesses summoned to present evidence in his own behalf.

(d) Complete segregation of witnesses shall be followed in all Council proceedings, and each witness shall be bound to secrecy.

(e) An unanimous decision must be reached in all cases involving dismissal or suspension; otherwise a majority decision shall be sufficient.

(f) A report of the findings in any case shall be filed with the Dean of the School of which the accused is a member. In case of acquittal, all evidence and records of the proceedings shall be destroyed. A list of offenses and punishments shall be published at the end of each quarter in the student newspaper, but the name of the offenders shall be withheld in all cases.

**SECTION V**  
**Penalties**

If the Council finds the accused guilty, it shall in its discretion impose penalties ranging from reprimand, warning, probation, and suspension for minor infractions, to exclusion from the University for major infractions. The penalty of an initial offense shall be in proportion to the gravity of the infraction and the length of residence in the University. The penalty for second major offense shall be exclusion from the University. In all cases where penalties are imposed, the Honor Council shall be guided by the principles and spirit of self-government under the Honor System.

**SECTION VI**

The decision of the Honor Council shall be final in all cases. In case of guilt, however, a case may be reopened by any member of the Honor Council when he is satisfied that new evidence or conditions justify reopening of the case.

This amendment shall become effective at the beginning of the school year following its ratification by the students according to the provisions of the student body constitution.

As a fair specimen of honorable independent action, this amendment is complete and valid without further sanction, approval, or recognition.

**SECTION VII**  
**Finalities**

If the Council finds the accused guilty, it shall in its discretion impose penalties ranging from reprimand, warning, probation, and suspension for minor infractions, to exclusion from the University for major infractions. The penalty of an initial offense shall be in proportion to the gravity of the infraction and the length of residence in the University. The penalty for second major offense shall be exclusion from the University. In all cases where penalties are imposed, the Honor Council shall be guided by the principles and spirit of self-government under the Honor System.

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Too Tired

**ERKINE HAWKINS**  
Gabriel Meets the Duke

**DINNER**  
Continued from page 1  
past four years by Sam Lowe, Jack Powell and Wylie Davis. Only friendship for the authors could have been responsible for the scattered and scanty applause it did receive.

The length of time covered by the skit must have been chosen arbitrarily as most of the seniors were in the junior class four years ago, many of them first having matriculated in order to avoid the Spanish-American war draft.

Presentation of an electric scoreboard, paid for by subscriptions by members of the class, to the university by Spec Landrum, washed-up football stumblebum, brought forth whispered conjectures as to how much Landrum and Elmo Draughon, president of the class, had knocked down on the deal.

Several members of the faculty were present in borrowed and ill-fitting clothes. They took little interest in the proceedings, wolfing down their food and looking longingly at the doors during the speeches.

Economy was evidently the main consideration of whoever financed the affair. The food, what there was of it, was of the cheapest quality and badly cooked.

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## At The Churches

**CHEROKEE HEIGHTS BAPTIST** — Rev. J. S. Finn, Pastor  
Sunday School — 10:15  
Morning Worship — 11:30  
"A Mother's Wage"  
B. T. U. — 6:45  
Evening Worship — 8:00  
"Jesus Always the Same"

**FIRST BAPTIST** — Dr. J. M. Trimmer, Pastor  
Sunday School — 10:00  
Morning Worship — 11:30  
"Come Ye Apart and Rest"  
B. T. U. — 6:45  
Evening Worship — 8:00

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN** — Rev. A. G. Harris, Pastor  
Sunday School — 10:15  
Morning Worship — 11:30  
"A Mother's Reward"  
Young People's League — 8:15  
Evening Worship — 7:30  
"How Religion Becomes Real"

**MULBERRY STREET METHODIST** — Dr. George Steven, Pastor  
Sunday School — 10:00  
Morning Worship — 11:30  
"Come Worship With Us"  
Young People's League — 8:00  
Evening Worship — 7:00

**TABERNACLE BAPTIST** — Dr. A. C. Baker, Pastor  
Sunday School — 10:00  
Morning Worship — 11:10  
"Our Mothers"  
B. T. U. — 6:30  
Evening Worship — 7:30  
Tent Service

**TATTNALL SQUARE BAPTIST** — Rev. L. H. Wright, Pastor  
Sunday School — 10:00  
Morning Worship — 11:30  
"Mothers of Men"  
B. T. U. — 6:45  
Evening Worship — 8:00  
"Prayer"

**VINEVILLE BAPTIST** — Dr. J. E. Sammons, Pastor  
Sunday School — 10:00  
Morning Worship — 11:30  
"The Great Woman of Shunem"  
B. T. U. — 7:00  
Evening Worship — 8:00  
"How and Where Can One Find Christ?"

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