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Who Says It Doesn't Pay to be Honest?
College Park Merchants Reward Students During Academic Integrity Week

COLLEGE PARK, MD. -- Ten merchants in the College Park area will reward University of Maryland at College Park students who sign an Academic Integrity Card, pledging that they will not cheat for the duration of their academic careers. The cards will be good for discounts ranging from 10 to 25 percent off purchases at establishments such as the Bagel Place, Bikini Splash and WaWa. Academic Integrity Week at the University of Maryland starts Feb. 24 and runs to Feb. 28.

Members of the Student Honor Council and the Office of Judicial Programs plan to distribute 5,000 of the cards which students will sign as a pledge to avoid cheating. Seeing their own signatures will remind the students that they have agreed to abide by the university's academic integrity policy and live in a community of trust, according to Patrick Connolly, chairman of the Student Honor Council.

Cards will be available in the lobbies of Hornbake and McKeldin libraries and in Stamp Student Union on Monday, Feb. 24 and Thursday, Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Some 1,000 were already distributed at the Maryland-North Carolina basketball game Feb. 22.

The idea for a "not-cheating" pledge is based on the national high school program called "Prom Promise," in which students pledge not to drink on prom night.

Other activities for Academic Integrity Week include a showing of the movie "A Time to Kill," an "Ethics Across the Disciplines" panel presentation, and a bowling night.

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