A Message on Penn State Values from President Eric Barron

After gathering input from across the Penn State community over the past four years, I am proud to share the final version of the Penn State Values.

While aspirational in nature, the Penn State Values should guide our actions and decisions as members of the Penn State community:

**Integrity:** We act with integrity and honesty in accordance with the highest academic, professional, and ethical standards.

**Respect:** We respect and honor the dignity of each person, embrace civil discourse, and foster a diverse and inclusive community.

**Responsibility:** We act responsibly, and we are accountable for our decisions, actions, and their consequences.

**Discovery:** We seek and create new knowledge and understanding, and foster creativity and innovation, for the benefit of our communities, society, and the environment.

**Excellence:** We strive for excellence in all our endeavors as individuals, an institution, and a leader in higher education.

**Community:** We work together for the betterment of our University, the communities we serve, and the world.

Everyone, including those at colleges, campuses and within units, are encouraged to use and incorporate the Penn State Values in their activities, planning and discussions. A toolkit containing electronic materials and resources for promoting and discussing the Penn State Values is available at [http://values.psu.edu](http://values.psu.edu).

The University also has developed an ethical decision-making model, based in part on the Penn State Values, to help guide decision making throughout our Penn State community.

Over the coming year, we will focus on each of the Penn State Values in depth, sharing examples generated by community members who participated in the Values Town Halls during spring 2015. We also will invite the University community to recognize individuals who demonstrate the Values in their daily activities, so that we can share their successes and highlight their accomplishments.

These Values are at the core of the recently approved University strategic plan, which is currently being implemented, and we are developing additional initiatives to further integrate them more fully into University life at all levels.

Thank you for taking the time to think about the Penn State Values, and thank you for supporting this important community-wide initiative.