Personal Code of Ethics

As a member of society and potential engineer, I realize the importance of setting standards for my actions and forming bases for my choices in order to grow both socially and professionally. My parents have played significant roles in the development of my values. My mother has instilled in me that the being honest and considerate is more important than educational and material success, causing me to hold those virtues to a high regard. My father believes on making decisions based on what would help me become my best possible self, which thus influences me to examine the long-term benefits when weighing options. Growing up in a Buddhist household and attending a boarding high school next to a Buddhist monastery has influenced my perspective of on the world and decision-making process to respect the life of living beings and believe in karma. These core values are determined by the environment I grew up in but shaped further by personal experience and reflection, and they act as a basis for determining my daily actions and decisions.

1. Citizenship: I will follow the beneficial laws and regulations of my household, community, school, workplace, and country.

* As laws are made to keep society fair and people from getting hurt, I will not engage in criminal action that can potentially harm another person, and uphold my duties as a citizen. I will follow societal laws and regulations long as there are negative consequences for myself or anyone else from its violation. In the case where there are contradictory rules given by two entities (i.e. community vs. workplace), I will use a utilitarian approach to decide which rule to ultimately follow through with.

1. Integrity: I will do what I believe is right and not give in to pressure from others to change my beliefs without introspection.

* If the people around me try to change my morals/ethics, I will reflect on the situation and stand up for what is right. I will not let pressure from others decide my actions, unless they are able to convince me that it is for the common good. In my career, I will be honest with my actions and be transparent with my intentions. If I encounter cases such as the withholding of shady information, I will try to find out motives and possible ethical approaches of the perpetrators and decide what is right based on duty.

1. Responsibility: I will take responsibility for my actions and only make agreements that I expect to keep.

* I will keep the promises, including agreements and contracts, that I make to myself, my friends/family, and my co-workers. In cases where there is conflict in interests in parties that I hold commitment to, I will make choices on a case by case basis depending on which side(s) have rights to the issue.

1. Growth: I will actively continue to gain knowledge and improve myself.

* It is important to me to keep growing and I believe that there is no limit to learning and self-improvement. Thus, I will try to master fields in my profession and look for new things to learn. I will also continuously modify and develop my standards for myself to become a more virtuous, better person as I grow older.

1. Ambition: I will strive for excellence and not approve of anything less than my best effort.

* I will try my best in whatever I decide to undertake whether it be in my personal life or career. This does not mean that things have to be done with perfection, but it means that I will work hard and in line with personal standards. I will use an egoistic approach to determine what I should put my best efforts in and strive for happiness, which comes from maintaining a good balance between my personal life and work life.

1. Open-mindedness: I will be open about the ideas, opinions, and beliefs of others.

* I will be accepting of and not negatively judge others differences and backgrounds because that is what leads to differences in ideas, opinions and beliefs. People have the right to make their own choices in lifestyle and belief and deserve to be respected. My words and actions should never cause others to feel that their self-esteem is being threatened or harmed.

1. Family: I will keep family a priority and maintain positive relationships with them.

* My relationships with people in my family are very important and I am willing to commit my life to their happiness because I believe in their moral code as well. Since they are always supportive of and watching out for me, I will do the same for them and always make choices for my actions with them in mind. This should extend to if or when I have a partner and/or children of my own. If there occurs an occasion when there is a conflict between what I think is right and what my family thinks is right, I will evaluate the situation and make choices based on the religion we share because the ethics of my family members all stem from that.

1. Life: I will value the life of and never intentionally participate in the harm of living beings unless they were posing a direct threat to another human.

* Every living being has the right to lead a full life without me directly hindering that, but if they decide to physically harm another human they are giving up that right. This applies not just to human beings but animals too. While this does not mean to become vegan/vegetarian, it means that I will never physically harm an animal myself or tell someone else to do that. However, in the case that myself or another human was being put in danger by other people or animals, I will defend the target even if it includes harming a living being.