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Important Dates

Spring & Summer 2015 Registration

⇒ November 12: Graduate Students & Seniors with 102 hours may register
⇒ November 13: Designated Populations may register
⇒ November 14: Seniors (including rising seniors) may register
⇒ November 17: Juniors (including rising juniors) may register
⇒ November 18: Sophomores (including rising sophomores) may register
⇒ November 19: Continuing Freshmen may register

Thanksgiving Break

The University will be closed from Wednesday, November 26 through Friday, November 28. Classes will resume Monday, December 1.
Valerie Merlin
NOVA Office Manager

As the Office Manager for the NOVA Program it is my job to be a support staff person for Jane, Sharon, and Sierrah. It is my goal to make sure that the office runs smoothly and when a student calls or comes in, I accommodate them. I also supervise two student workers in the office. I began working here in 1991, making this year my 24th year with NOVA. I accepted this job because I knew I would have more interaction with students. The students and staff are incredible and I couldn’t picture myself anywhere else. We all truly care for our students...how could I not want to work for a program like this?

Sierrah Anderson
Academic Advisor

You may not know this, but before I worked for NOVA, I was a NOVA student! I loved my time as a student with the NOVA Program (2004-2008), so I was thrilled when I was offered a position to work on the other side of the desk in 2012. I earned both my undergraduate degree and graduate degree here at EKU and I am so blessed to work with students who are in the same position I was. As the Academic Advisor for the NOVA Program, it is my responsibility to advise students, teach classes, and supervise the Peer Leaders. I love my job and the people I work with!
Sabrina is a senior mathematics major from Irvine, Kentucky, graduating in the Spring of 2015. After college, Sabrina would like to work with Teach for America to bring a new set of skills to under-serviced regions. NOVA has helped Sabrina stay on track to graduate by making the transition from high school easier as well as promoting self awareness and responsibility.

NOVA’s spring course, Principles of Service Learning, is a one credit hour, service-based course that allows students the opportunity to develop leadership, teamwork, and communication skills while giving back to the Richmond community. Students are placed with a community partner to work with for 16 weeks, performing various acts of volunteer work. Past community partners include McCreary Manor, Madison Co. A.L.L., Hope’s Wings, Madison Co. Public Library, and many others! At the end of the semester, students present their volunteer work at the annual NOVA Poster Showcase, a professional networking event that spotlights their hard work. Students interested in the GSD 225S course are encouraged to talk with their Peer Leader and NOVA advisor!
On October 23rd, NOVA participants enjoyed a Halloween party held in Sullivan Hall, where the NOVA LLC is located. Students enjoyed pizza and candy, decorated pumpkins, and had a costume contest! A great time was had by all!

COSTUME CONTEST WINNERS

1st Place: Rachel Smith, (pictured above center)

2nd Place: Nikea Banther & Hope Tarter (pictured right)

3rd Place: Kayla Freeman, (pictured above right)
Haunted Halls

Telford Hall
Telford Hall is yet another building where you could feel something strange since there have been suicides reported there. It is rumored that a girl fell out of one of the windows there. Current residents also get a spooky view of the Richmond Cemetery, which is located behind the building.

Burnam Hall
In Burnam Hall, you can pick up creepy vibes. Allegedly, there is a section of the dorm which was blocked off after a student hung herself years ago and strange encounters kept occurring (circa the 60s). That section of the dorm has been reopened for residence.

Sullivan Hall
During the Battle of Richmond, during the Civil War, Sullivan was supposedly used as a hospital to house wounded soldiers and the basement was used as a morgue. During its use as a residence hall, Sullivan has had at least one suicide reported. Victoria, a nursing major, took her own life in the 1970’s by hanging herself in room 419. For a long time the room was blocked off and no one could live there. The room’s current resident lives in there without any problems from Victoria.
Jon is a junior at Eastern and comes to us from Burlington, Kentucky. He’s majoring in Criminal Justice and is excited to see where his major leads him. Jon entered into the NOVA program back in 2012 and discovered something he says is a never ending wave of support. “We have a strong foundation,” Jon tells the NOVA Newsletter. Jon’s fall semester peer leader, Krystal Carroll, encouraged him to take NOVA’s service learning course where he partnered with Madison Co. Public Library under the guidance of senior, Kevin Gearke, for a semester packed with fun volunteer activities. Currently, Jon is focusing on his studies and leans on NOVA for academic advice.

Jessica Miller – Jessica, one of our many alumni, graduated in 2013 with a degree in Parks and Recreation. Her peer leader, Hannah Phillips, helped spark a passion for NOVA during her freshman year. Jessica served as a peer leader for two semesters and then became the Residential Assistant for the NOVA Living Learning Community. Jessica says “Nova gave me the motivation and drive to get through some really tough times. They pushed me to be a leader and to think of others first.” Jessica is now the Director of Kentucky Stride, a non-profit organization that focuses in recreational therapy for adults with disabilities.
The NOVA Program will be hosting our annual Registration Event for our freshmen participants. NOVA Peer Leaders will be assisting freshmen students in registering for their Spring and Summer 2015 courses.

All current NOVA freshman and Peer Leaders are encouraged to attend. Bring your laptop and come hungry, as there will be free refreshments served at the event!

When: Tuesday, November 18, 9:30pm-12:30am
Where: Noel Studio Discovery Room
Student Spotlight

Name: Demetria Young
Classification: Freshman
Major: Pre-Athletic Training
Home Town: Lexington, KY
Why EKU?:
EKU is affordable and offers her major!

Newsletter Staff

Mary Helen Lynn
Business Marketing
Senior

Anna Reeves
Criminal Justice
Sophomore

Dakoda Potter
Broadcasting and
Electronic Media
Junior

Tessa Osborne
Communications
Studies
Senior

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