September 2014

Sharon Lee is back

About Jane

Advice from Jane and Sharon

Peer Leaders

Nova Spotlight

LLC move

Nova Graduates

Director

Assistant Director

Jane Tinsley
25 Years

Sharon Lee
4 Years

Academic Advisor

Office Manager

Sierrah Anderson
2 Years

Valerie Merlin
24 Years
Sharon Lee is back

I invite everyone to come see me for anything small-big, if it’s a casual talk, to talking about graduate school. I am here to help you, no matter what, and so are Jane, Sierrah, Valerie, and all the other NOVAs.

What was your past job here at the University? I was the Academic Advisor for Pre-Professional Programs here at EKU. My responsibilities were to help students select courses to fulfill pre-requisite requirements for professional school programs. A few examples including medical, law, dental, physically therapy, etc. Help with test prep and application process to the schools.

What’s it like to be back with NOVA in this new position? Now being back is an exciting new and different experience. It’s like being at home, just with more responsibilities. My previous position for NOVA was an academic advisor for 4 years.

Do you like this new change? I will miss my pre-professional students of course, however, I am looking forward to working with the NOVA students again and reconnecting with past NOVA participants and making the bonds with the incoming NOVAs.

It is very important to build a professional relationship with your instructors. This helps with your professional growth, especially if it’s a major professor because they can be mentor to you and a great recommendation. For the upperclassmen, be sure to look into your co-op opportunities now and keep in mind that Graduate School is only one small step away.

As the Director of the NOVA Program it is my job to:

1. Follow federal guidelines.
2. Look to the future for success of this program, in terms of needs for freshmen-seniors.
3. To advocate for NOVAs’ rights on campus.

It is also important for me to be current for what is happening with TriO on a national level; you have probably noticed that I am in meetings all the time. I am in meetings to stay a step ahead of what EKU is offering for first generation college students; the NOVA program is always on the cutting edge for success for our NOVA Students.
Advice

Please know that myself, Sharon, Sierrah, Valerie, and all older NOVAs are here to help you make the transition from high school to college run smoothly. In terms of classes, be sure to utilize your resources (our free printing, tutoring services, your peer leaders, the Gurus, and the Noel Studio study strategies). If you have questions in class or otherwise be sure to ask (if you're unsure of what to ask, talk to your Peer Leaders about that) and please be sure to attend class regularly. To be successful your first semester, start building your resume now and look into work study jobs. Be comfortable with who you are and in return be accepting of others and who they are. Don't limit your possibilities. You are in a totally new environment; this is your voyage to find who you are. The sky is the limit, so don't limit yourself! Get out in the world and explore everything. Don't stay anchored to academics or yourself, become who you want to be.

Sharon Lee

Everybody: Don’t be afraid to take advantage of the opportunities that will come your way; you never know what you may gain from that.

Freshmen: Get involved, and balance everything in your life that you can.

Upperclassmen: Start thinking ahead, the future is now, before you know it, you’ll be faced with career options.

“Just Breathe and take one step at a time.”

Jane Tinsley

“Our goal of the NOVA Program is to help you be successful in life, from freshmen year to Graduation and beyond!”
A Peer Leader is:

- A Friend
- A Confidant
- A Mentor
- A Leader
- A Motivator

Our job is to help guide you throughout your freshman year. We share resources and help connect you to others. We are all about helping YOU be successful.
“Make sure you have a balance in college. Make time for studying and friends, and get involved on campus! I think getting involved and meeting all different types of people is essential to be happy, make lifelong friends and grow as a person.”
—Miranda Massey

Charles "Charlie" Raby
Major: Computer Information Systems
Hometown: Fort Myers, FL
He chose EKU because: He gets to see all 4 seasons, plus it seemed like a welcoming place. It is also halfway between where his fiancée lives up north and where he lives.

Katherine Hollon
Major: Art
Hometown: Rogers, KY
She chose EKU because: She was in Upward Bound and was already familiar with the campus. EKU seemed welcoming and everyone is nice here.

Corey "Casper" Harrell
Major: Undeclared
Hometown: Houston, TX
He chose EKU because: His sister lives in Richmond and he loves the campus. His favorite part of being here is to stand in tall buildings to see the whole campus.

“Manage your time so that you can get all your school work done but yet have some free time for yourself to enjoy college.”
—Megan McClellan
The NOVA LLC has a new place to call home! This new home is in Sullivan Hall on the third and fourth floors. For the past three out of four years the LLC has resided in McGregor Hall. The LLC was first offered to students in the 2011 fall semester. This is an exciting opportunity for the NOVA students! If you ever have a question about anything you have your fellow NOVA students to help. And who knows, your Peer Leader could be living right down the hall from you! The resident assistants are also NOVA students. The first RAs for the NOVA LLC were Jessica Miller, who is now graduated and working at Kentucky Stride, and Brandon Mandigo, who graduated with a major in Recreation and Park Administration. The current RAs for the LLC are Ceanna Baker and Jeremy Harris. Ceanna and Jeremy have been the RAs for the past 2 years. Some September programs that will be occurring for the female floor are: a bowl of soup program and a monopoly game night where financial tips will be discussed. For the male floor: a “how to be a proper gentleman” program, Survival 101 program, and a Personal Safety program. If you would like more information about these programs please contact Ceanna Baker or Jeremy Harris.
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