



**Office of Residence Life**  
*Student Affairs*  
537 Patterson Office Tower  
Lexington, KY 40506-0027  
Phone: (859) 257-4784  
Fax: (859) 323-4941  
[www.uky.edu](http://www.uky.edu)

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Dear Mr. Stauffer & SEAHO Awards Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I write to support the nomination of New Economy Incubator, a Living Learning Community at the University of Kentucky, for the SEAHO Housing and Academic Collaboration Award. In my short time as the new Assistant Director of Academic Initiatives, it is already clear to me that New Economy Incubator stands out as a highlight of our Living Learning Community program. The buy-in from our academic colleagues, the enthusiasm of the residents, and the dedication of the staff are exactly the things one would hope to find in a residence hall where educational communities not only exist but thrive.

Our LLC program at the University of Kentucky is still fairly young, and we are constantly considering ways to make it more robust and sustainable. In these efforts, New Economy sets the curve. It is the standard by which we evaluate what is and what could be. Our colleagues in the College of Engineering and the College of Business & Economics have been active partners in programming, tutoring, and providing a variety of resources to our residents. It is clear that they support the work we are doing and want to be part of providing holistic educational experiences for the students we serve.

Furthermore, the Residence Life staff members who support this community are top-notch. Resident Director Chris Miller is one of the most dedicated young professionals with whom I have had the pleasure to work. He is clearly invested in New Economy Incubator, its purpose, and its residents. His diligent work to promote student development and create a strong sense of community has set an example for his staff. Together with Chris, the resident advisors build great rapport with their residents, deliver creative programming, and constantly go above and beyond in the fulfillment of their duties.

As a consequence of the dedication demonstrated by both Residence Life staff and their academic partners, the student experience in New Economy Incubator is likely to be the most robust and meaningful of any residential environments on our campus. We take tremendous pride in that fact and work hard to maintain it. I have no doubt that, as we move forward in our efforts to strengthen all of our LLC experiences, New Economy Incubator and the partnership behind it will continue to be our trailblazer. For this reason, among others, the New Economy Incubator at the University of Kentucky is clearly deserving in my mind of the SEAHO Housing and Academic Collaboration Award. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any further information to support her nomination.

Sincerely,

Marianne Lorensen  
Assistant Director, Academic Initiatives  
[melorensen@uky.edu](mailto:melorensen@uky.edu)