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Liberty’s Honors Manager, Mrs. Laura Kline: Service to Lord and Family

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By Christiann McNew

Five students shuffle quietly into Scholars Commons and take a seat in the Honors lounge where they immediately resume a deeply intense discussion about literature. Fresh coffee is dripping in the pot, and the aroma drifts into the lounge like an invitation. In her office, Honors Manager Laura Kline sits behind her laptop where she keeps everything about Honors in order.

When people talk about Liberty University, they may mention politics, interesting history, its growth, or evangelical basis. But what makes the university really thrive is the dedicated staff, like Mrs. Kline, who has a passion for its mission: to train champions for Christ.

After the unexpected death of her husband, Mrs. Kline packed up her life in Richmond, Virginia, and followed one of her daughters to Lynchburg who came to pursue a law degree at Liberty. Once there, Mrs. Kline accepted a position in Liberty’s Honors Program.

Previously a ministry assistant at the state convention of the Southern Baptist Church in Richmond, she maintained a database of churches, pastors, contacts, and general statistics. “Every place I’ve gone, I somehow end up with a database,” said Mrs. Kline with a smile.

As Honors Manager, she makes sure that requirements are filled, thesis proposals are being processed, and every Honors student is actively doing something. To most Honors students, Mrs. Kline has become the Honors Mom.

Besides being a mother to two daughter and two granddaughters and about 700 Honors students, she is a student herself. What is her degree ambition? She doesn’t know; she keeps changing her major because she’s interested in everything. That’s why Honors is the perfect place for her to be; it is a gathering place for all disciplines. She is happy about being busy. She was beaming when she said that liked student contact.
When asked who has had the most influence in her life, Mrs. Kline paused to reminisce. After a minute of thought, she told how her husband had been the strong example for her. His godly balanced view of life and family kept her moving and growing. They had married young after growing up together. Mrs. Kline joked about how her 18-year-old married life seemed even younger in perspective when her own daughters reached that age. She continues to carry her husband’s influence in her life now. Her current motivations are based on serving the Lord and being passionate for the Church, families, and lifestyles that reflect well on faith in Christ.

“It is important that I do well, that I do a good job,” she said in all seriousness.

Although Liberty has been a great transition for Mrs. Kline in this stage of life, she acknowledges the current work God is doing and thinks in terms of chapters. She is committed to service to the Lord and service to family. Being an Honors Mom is her current chapter.

Laura Kline is just one snapshot of the Liberty University family. Professors and staff each have their own stories, their own passions, and their own relationships with Christ. They are the trainers for the next generation. As long as God keeps sending servants like Mrs. Kline to be a part of Liberty’s staff, the university will continue to fulfil its mission of growth and training champions for Christ.