To my new fellow huskies,

 Congratulations! You made it to college and we are so excited to welcome you to our huskie community. You are probably feeling many different things such as excitement, fear, anxiety, joy, and relief, but just know that you are not alone. Not too long ago I was arriving at NIU as a new student and I had a rush of so many feelings as well. I was nervous about the uncertainty and I thought that I had to face this huge university all on my own. I learned really quickly that my fears were not true. There are so many people at NIU who are caring and willing to help you along the way. In just one semester I have learned so much about what it truly means to be a huskie and have made connections with my peers, professors, and staff.

 I also learned that one of the most important things I did so far was get involved on campus. I joined an organization that I had interest in and from there I hit the ground running. I made some of my best friends through this organization and also was able to build my resume to get my first on-campus job! Getting involved really can help you learn more about what you are interested in, can connected you to campus, and help you get some great experience. I really suggest to go to the involvement fair during welcome days to find out more about all of the great clubs NIU has to offer.

 Finally my last piece of advice would be to take the class UNIV 101. This class really helped me learn everything I needed to know about being a college student at NIU. I was able to learn things such as success strategies, college learning skills, and important resources on campus. The class definitely helps to ease the transition from high school to college level work and I feel more prepared now going into my second semester! Please remember that the NIU community is all here rooting for you. There are so many opportunities here for you to take advantage of and make sure to make the most of your experience!

Your friend,

Victor E. Huskie