

RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT SLIVKA HALL



Welcome to Slivka!

A word from our President!

Hi!

Welcome to the Residential College of Science and Engineering at Slivka Hall! The college staff, executive board, and Harry the cephalopod (our beloved mascot) are excited to meet you.



Slivka is truly among the nicest buildings on campus and is also home to a vibrant community. The foundation of that liveliness lies squarely with our Slivkans. Our rec lounge on the second floor is active most hours of the day, with Slivkans using our Nintendo Switch, ping pong table, and kitchen. Almost every evening, the rec lounge plays host to our many events, from weekly classics like Movie Munchies, Game Night, and Slivka Storytime to one-offs about punk Buddhist monks, custom NUopoly, and juggling with faculty.

As Slivkans, we embrace our STEM focus. At virtually any hour of the day or night, you will find Slivkans working on EA homework, finishing that CS project, or furiously erasing the integrals on their math problem set. In our seminar room, you'll often find DTC teams working on design ideas and client meetings. And Slivka has even been a DTC client in the past!

But Slivka isn't just a dorm of busy engineering and science students. We have a collection of non-STEM majors, too! Outside of class, our interests run the gambit from very, very long furbies to 3D printing to serene artistic creations. Each year, we field intramural sports teams, host a Super Bowl watch party, and attend two formals. And we tend to congregate for meals together at the Slivka table in Sargent, bringing our community outside the walls of the building.

Slivka is simply home. It's where I've met most of my friends and spend the majority of my free time. And that statement rings true for a large portion of our community. More than the community events, constant source of EA homework help, and faculty connections Slivka offers, our strong sense of friendship and community makes Slivka unique on campus. We can't wait for you to join us!

Best,
Jeremy White

P.S. If people you meet when you arrive on campus want to join Slivka after hearing you talk about how great it is, they can do so by becoming a non-resident member! More info is on our social media and website.

Welcome to Slivka!

A word from our Faculty Chair!

Greetings and welcome to the Residential College of Science and Engineering at Slivka Hall! My name is Karen Chou (a.k.a. kchou), and I am the Faculty Chair for Slivka. I know that I speak for all of our Slivka staff, Fellows, and students when I say that we are delighted to welcome you to our community.



While our official theme is science and engineering, Slivkans' interests embrace a wide range of creative and intellectual pursuits, as well as the just plain quirky. Whether you enjoy the story time events, hangout in the rec lounge for Movie Munchies, play a video game among our many selections, or have bonding time with fellow Slivkans while having snacks hosted by your Faculty Chair, you'll find your community in Slivka.

Slivka activities are also a great way to get to know our many faculty and graduate-student Fellows. Besides the numerous fireside discussions hosted by the Fellows, you'll get the chance to meet our Fellows casually at Slivka's weekly P2P (prof to peer) lunches where you can get the latest news on earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, find out why Applied Math is great for helping you solve puzzles, how similar cooking and engineering are, or ask Northwestern deans for their favorite fruit bread recipes and baking techniques. Slivka's Fellows events are also great opportunities to get to know Fellows better, whether you're discussing research, hobbies, or just decompressing over coffee and pastry.

If you are someone who likes planning events – or just spending time with really fun people – Slivka's amazing Exec board always welcomes new ideas and committee members. In addition, through Slivka's many culture events you'll get a chance to see theatrical and musical performances with your fellow Slivkans and Slivka Fellows; and learn to cook and taste different ethnic food.

We are looking forward to a wonderful 2023-2024 with you. Welcome! Go Cats.

Karen Chou, Faculty Chair

2023-2024 EXEC BOARD



Jeremy White (he/him)

President

Jeremy is your resident early bird! His role as President includes running exec and house meetings and working with other res colleges. If you're ever up at 7AM, or want to chat about African politics, Jeremy's your guy.

Emma Sliwinski (she/her)

Vice President

Emma is your resident sustainability enthusiast! As Vice President, she handles the points database and all things housing. She's also in Northwestern's non-major orchestra, and can tell you lots about that!



Lucas Takayasu (he/him)

Treasurer

Lucas is your resident tax-exempt specialist! As Treasurer, he handles all of Slivka's fiscal transactions. He's also an avid computer engineering lover and has competed in science competitions, which he's happy to discuss.

Nano Goldman (he/him)

Academic Chair

Nano is your resident playing card collector! His role as Academic Chair involves planning events and firesides related to learning. He's also a fan of Formula One racing and will happily watch a race with you at any hour of the day!



2023-2024 EXEC BOARD



Daniel Ozernyi (he/him)

Fellows Chair, Winter 2024

Daniel is your resident linguist! As Fellows Chair, he coordinates with our faculty fellows and helps them connect with Slivkans. He knows a scary amount about linguistics and academic research in general, so be sure to reach out to him if you have questions about how to get involved in that!



Kevin Hayes (he/him)

Fellows Chair Proxy, Fall 2023

Kevin is your replacement Fellows Chair for the fall! He'll be coordinating closely with Daniel and will help Slivkans interact with fellows and plan fellows events in the fall.

Christian Joseph Englert

Social Chair

Christian is your resident McCormick nationalist! His role as Social Chair includes planning more traditional fun events, like movie nights. He loves all things chemical engineering, especially Tech, and can help you get lost in the building should you desire.



Alex Gerber (she/her)

Philanthropy Chair

Alex is your resident animal lover and dog owner! She runs Philanthropy Committee, which organizes wholesome events to give back to Northwestern and Evanston. If you're ever looking for someone to chat with, talk to Alex!



2023-2024 EXEC BOARD

Joseph Grantham (he/him)

Facilities Chair

Joseph is your resident ISP dropout and casual wanderer! His role as Facilities Chair involves managing Slivka's common property, like the vacuum cleaner (and many other things). He is also one of three exec members to have lived in West Virginia!



Mira Norman (they/them)

IT Chair

Norman is your resident Kirby enjoyer! As IT Chair, they manage Slivka's listserv, calendar, and Discord server and run the committee for all things cursed and quirky. They also have wide music tastes and are a great choice to ask for a song recommendation!



Victoria Israel (she/her)

Publications Chair

Victoria is your resident raccoon meme lover! Her role as Publications Chair includes preparing Slivka's weekly Toilet Paper and managing our social media accounts. She also loves Video Games and is a great person to reach out to for a nice discussion of robotics or biology!



COLLEGE STAFF

Karen Chou (she/her)

Faculty Chair



KChou is Clinical Professor Emerita and former assistant department chair of Civil and Environmental Engineering. She is alumna of NU with M.S. and Ph.D. in Structural Engineering. KChou is also a licensed Professional Engineer in six states. She was Engineer of Record of a number of projects in Minnesota. Currently she serves on a few committee within the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), in particular, Committee on (civil engineering) Education and Task Committee on Civil Engineering related technology curriculum.

Since retirement, she was able to catch up on some cooking, including cooking fireside events with the Slivkans, cross stitching, reading mystery books, and walking as much as she can. She can always talk about building, structures, infrastructures, EA 2 and 216 (you will find out what they are soon enough). You can learn more about her [here!](#)

Suzan van der Lee (she/her)

Associate Chair

Suzan is one of two Sarah Rebecca Roland Professors at Northwestern. She conducts research and teaches through the Earth & Planetary Sciences in Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. As a geophysicist she specializes in seismology, data science, and interdisciplinary STEM research. She has diverse international work and field work experience, two kids, and likes the outdoors. She would like for us all to be more in awe of and better stewards of the Earth. You can learn more about Suzan's research at [here!](#)



SLIVKA 101

Faculty Fellows!

One of the best parts of living in a Residential College are our Fellows! They are Northwestern staff members (including professors, grad students, and administrators) who are affiliated with a specific Residential College. Our Slivka Fellows often eat lunch with us at our table in Sargent Dining Hall (we have a banner and everything, but ask any Slivkan and they can show you where to go if you get confused!). They also hang out at the dorm, especially during Fellows committee events like firesides or brunches. You can learn more about some of our Fellows on our website.

Traditions!

Slivka has many quarterly and annual traditions that we're excited to share! Here are some of them:

- Harry's Black Market Auction, where Slivkans auction off skills to raise money for Dance Marathon!
- Slivsgiving, where we cook together for Thanksgiving and eat together as a community!
- Rejected Talks, where Slivkans attempt to present PowerPoints made by other Slivkans that they've never seen before!
- Trivia Night, where we test our knowledge in the most random topics!



Committees!

Most of our Exec board members head committees of Slivkans who help put on numerous weekly events. You can see much of what our committees do by checking back in our individual Exec bios. Our committees really let Slivka stand out from other dorms because they let our members get involved in putting on events that are open to everyone. Everyone is welcome to join a committee!

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Northwestern has tons of resources that are available for students to take advantage of. We've only linked a few here, so if you think you need resources that we haven't listed, they most likely exist!

Student Enrichment Services (SES)

SES is the group dedicated to making sure that all students, regardless of income, are able to make the most of their Northwestern experience! They also host events throughout the year about networking, resume building, and more to help first-generation and low-income students be successful!

AccessibleNU (ANU)

ANU oversees accommodations for students with any kind of disability that might impact academics. You can get help with things like testing arrangements, books in different formats, assistive technology, sign language interpretation, and more. They have an interactive, involved, and 100% confidential process to help students get the accommodations that are most helpful.

Slivka Events Calendar

If you're looking for Slivka events, check out our GCal on our website, and feel free to hit the blue plus button underneath the calendar to add it to your own GCal!

Tech Room Finder

Tech, the maze disguised as a building on campus with the second-greatest number of false anecdotes about it (#1 is Deering), is home to many math, science, engineering, and too-large-to-fit-anywhere-else classes. True anecdote about Tech: it's super easy to get lost if you don't understand the system. Fortunately, the Tech Room Finder exists to help you!

paper.nu

Trying to plan your classes, but think CAESAR's schedule visualizer sucks? Try paper.nu for better visuals! You'll still need to register for classes through CAESAR, but you'll have a better idea of what your schedule looks like when you use paper.nu.

Slivka's Packing List

Not sure what to bring to college for the first time? Slivka's "What to Bring" guide is here to help! It covers the main things you'll need. Pro-tip: get a Twin XL mattress topper for your bed, unless you're really comfortable with lumpy dorm mattresses!

TIPS & TRICKS

We know that starting college is extremely stressful, so we've put together some tips & tricks below to help you navigate more smoothly into the beginning of your college journey!

If you're in a single, don't panic about having no friends and knowing nobody before coming to campus. Firstly, **everyone is desperate to make friends.** Second, Slivka's suite-style setup makes it much easier to meet people, and we're an extremely social dorm in general, which makes it easy to meet people.

Hack to meet other Slivkans: **live in the rec lounge.** There are always people hanging out there!



Some great options for next summer are **study abroad**, **URAP** (paid research for newcomers to research), and **NU summer school!** Don't worry if you don't know what you want to do; none of these options start opening applications until early winter, so there's plenty of time to think!

Be sure to **check your email at least daily!** Professors will update assignments, exam dates, course expectations, etc. through email. You'll also get many emails about events happening on campus.

If you have any interest in joining a club, give them your email address to get on their Listserv. **You can always unsubscribe from a Listserv at any point** to stop getting their emails, or you can set up email filters.

As a freshman, **having a declared major is basically the same as having an undeclared major**, since it's so easy to change your major, and you're likely to do that as you learn more about yourself.

Don't be afraid to drop a class! There's no penalty for dropping, and it can be a huge relief. Some Slivkans even sign up for 5 classes with the intention of dropping the worst one (we wouldn't recommend this until you have a better idea of what you can handle).

If you're in Evanston, **almost every restaurant or store has some kind of Wildcard discount.** It never hurts (and frequently helps) to ask when you're paying/checking out; just make sure you have your Wildcard with you when you ask!

Northwestern students get free rides on the CTA 201 bus, but you will need a Northwestern Ventra card to ride for free. Apply for one **here**.



Looking for more Slivka content? You can try some of these options to learn more or get in touch with your new community!

Our [website](#), which has tons of resources and our Google Calendar for you to explore!

Our [Instagram](#) page, where you can keep up with the latest from us!

The best way for students to get involved with Slivkans over the summer is through our [Discord server](#)!

Between our website, Google Calendar, Instagram page, and Discord server, there's plenty to explore! If you find yourself wanting to know more about Slivka, don't hesitate to reach out to Slivkans online or through email - we're super excited to hear from you all and can't wait for the year to start!