Dear Senior Ashley,

How are you already a senior? I’m currently writing this letter in my favorite spot in my room, I hope it’s still your favorite spot in three years. I’m so proud of what I’ve accomplished in my short time in Longwood and I hope you remember all you did in one year.

When I was first alone in my dorm room, I can’t lie, I was really nervous. I was in a whole new place with virtually no friends, I was basically starting my life over. It was a scary change, but such a good change. In one year, I’ve met some of the most amazing people I could not imagine life without, people I hope are still your best friends.

Before college, I wouldn’t go anywhere by myself, now I can literally drive across the state by myself with no problem. I have grown so much as a person and have become so independent. I learned how to manage school, friends, and free time in a healthy way all on my own. I prioritized school and was able to be on Dean’s List all of my freshman year, something to be very proud of. I hope that I kept this streak going through college and maintained my GPA, but if not, know that **it is okay.** School isn’t easy and as long as I did my best, that’s what matters most to me.

I joined several organizations; ADPi, KDPi, and SPED Ambassadors and have taken on some leadership roles. I hope I’ve joined some other organizations that I planned on, but didn’t over do myself. I love being involved, but there is such a thing as being too involved. I hope that I eventually got selected to be a peer mentor because I would just love to help incoming freshman.

I hope that you got your perfect little, and to my future little know that I already love you so so much!! I hope you help all incoming freshman, or anyone who needs help at Longwood because you would have loved an older mentor as your friend during your first semester in college.

Besides all the school stuff of college, I hope you saved some time for fun. College is supposed to be a fun experience, something you talk about for years on end and I hope you made some lasting memories. Grades are important, but being happy is even more important. I hope we didn’t stress ourselves out too much, I did that enough freshman year.

I don’t know if you already have a job lined up or what you plan on doing, but I am so excited to see where we end up. Maybe we will move back home with mom and dad or maybe we have other plans, either way the sky is the limit. I hope you enjoyed your years at Longwood and cherished them because boy did freshman year go by fast!! I cannot wait to see where we end in life and what we will do in this world.

Love always,

Freshman Ashley