



Amelia Davis, Florida A & M University- c/o 1995, Business Economics



Name : Amelia Davis

Your HBCU : Florida A & M University

Graduation Year : 1995

Major : Business Economics

1. Where are you from? Who introduced you to HBCUs?*

Born and raised in Tallahassee, Florida. My teachers in elementary, middle and high school were graduates of both HBCU and PWI, but as a child you don't know the difference. It wasn't until I got older, is when I saw the difference and knew the significance and why HBCUs were created.



FAMU Tampa Classic 2017

2. Why did you choose an HBCU over a pwi?*

I choose to attend a HBCU, Florida A&M in particular, because of the strong legacy and history of my alma mater. As a child I recall going to field trips to Lee Hall Auditorium (on FAMU campus) to see the Dance Theater of Harlem and Alvin Ailey Dance Theater; the excitement of the campus to a few 8 year old kids was unforgettable. I honestly never saw myself attending any other university, because of the strong presence FAMU had in my community. And I was awarded a partial scholarship to FAMU, presented to me by Dr. Frederick Humphries (former FAMU President;in video below) at my high school graduation, June 1991.

3. What is the story of your "experience" at Your HBCU given its heralded status as a stellar and prestigious institution?*

My HBCU experience...words cannot describe the love I have for my university and the memories. It may sound cliché when you hear that we are a "FAMUly"...but its true. There is an indescribable force that connects all Rattlers, especially alumni. We look out for each other, we help each other, we support one another... I wouldn't trade my HBCU experience at FAMU, for any other school on this earth.

4. "First time" experiences at your HBCU?*

N/A

5. Who are the professors that have impacted your life in and out of the classroom? How did they do that?*

Dr. Victor Oguledo was my academic adviser and would take the time to sit with me and go over my educational path to graduation. Also, Dr. Rudolph Daniels encouraged and always challenged

his students to be the best. He also sparked the interest in subscribing to the Wall Street Journal (it didn't hurt that we had to show proof of subscription for extra credit). Dr Daniels encouraged graduate school, as he would always say, "Go to graduate school directly after you graduate, because once you start making money and living your life, it will be hard to go back". It took me 13 years to go back to get my MBA, so needless to say...he was right! One thing that sticks out to me is a conversation I had with Dr Ogueledo. The summer I was set to graduate, FAMU didn't offer the classes and I had to attend summer school at another university across town, he told me, " You will see the difference on how professors will help you". I didn't know what he meant, until I finished the two classes and I went back to him and admitted he was right.



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6. Best restaurants on/near campus? Best dishes?

Let's see..... B. Merrell's had the BEST 25 cent wings at Happy Hour and then there was Skinner's across from FAMU. Being from Tallahassee, or a "local" as they called us, I really didn't eat out a lot, as I always had a home cook meal, when I wanted.

7. College crush?

Hmmm...I'll skip this one

8. What is your major? and Why did you choose it?

As a freshman, I entered Florida A&M as a Chemistry major. I didn't mind Chemistry, but hated Biology and my grades reflected that. My sophomore year, I changed to Business Economics (which was really a major in Economics with a minor in Business Administration) and never looked back. That was the best decision I made! I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Economics.

9. What are the chants heard most often at the sporting events?

It was soooooo many, especially when you sat by the band, The Incomparable Marching 100!

10. How are you positively active on campus? (e.g. clubs, SGA, etc.)

I was a member of SGA Sophomore class cabinet 92-93 and a member of NCNW, when it was first being chartered on FAMU campus. After my Sophomore year, I pretty much became less active in groups and more focused on my studies. High school I was a member of SGA, Co-Editor of the yearbook and Senior class President.

11. How did you overcome your nervousness about going to college?

I wouldn't call it nervousness.....I would actually say it was excitement. It didn't hurt that me, my best friends and some of my high school classmates went to FAMU and had some of the same classes. My transition into college life was quite easy.

12. If you could only speak two sentences to the youth coming after you what would you say?

Please value your college experiences, as this will be the most defining moment of your life. Take it serious!