



## **Earlee Corbin, Johnson C. Smith University- c/o 2018, Business Administration with a concentration in Management**



**Name :** Earlee Corbin

**Your HBCU :** Johnson C. Smith University

**Graduation Year :** 2018

**Major :** Business Administration with a concentration in Management

**Minor :** N/A

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

I am from Oakville, MD which is a small country town on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The University of Maryland Eastern Shore is located about 3 1/2 from my father's house. It wasn't until I attended there my freshman year in 04'-05' that I knew what an HBCU was. I would not finish my education there but that's where it all started. I finished my degree at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, NC almost 10 years later.



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

I chose a HBCU over a PWI because of the experience and convenience of the program I wanted to be a part of.

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

Being a Non-Traditional student, we are not provided with the same resources as the traditional students are. So, we depended on each other to make our way through. Just being involved on campus and showing we cared about each other opened so many doors not only for myself but for others as well. We had an organization called ANTSHE (Association Of Non-Traditional Students of Higher Education). Our advisors, deans, and faculty genuinely cared about our success and made us feel like family!!! I do not believe we could have experienced that anywhere else. That's what made my experience great at JCSU.

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

I had the opportunity to represent not only myself but other Adult Learners at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle, WA. And for the first time, I was able to bring light for all of those who looked like me, shared my struggles, and dedicated themselves to success to a large stage.

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

The professors who have made the largest impact on my life are Professor Shammara Hasty, Sahnia Oates, Dr. Robert Linsey, and Dr. Lucinda Blue. They challenged me to not only be a better student, but to be a better man, husband, friend, and professional. Those are just a few. But I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for Dr. Laura McLean, Dr. Melita Mitchell, and Dr. John Bannister. When I hear or think about JCSU... I see their faces and what they do for that institution. And for that... I'm forever grateful.



**6. What was your happiest moment in your life to date?**

Walking up to my wife and kids, and hugging them.... That was my happiest moment. It was because of my wife why I finished my degree and to hug her after the commencement was icing on the cake. I was able to fulfill a promise that I made to my late father and uncle and it felt GREAT!