



## **LaKeisha Souter, Florida A & M University- c/o 1998, Electrical Engineering**



**Name :** LaKeisha Souter

**Your HBCU :** Florida A & M University

**Graduation Year :** 1998

**Major :** Electrical Engineering

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

I am a native Floridian. Born in Tallahassee, raised in Quincy, FL. I am also a second generation FAMU Rattler.



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

The college experience is often one of self-reflection and cultural awareness. Attending an HBCU is the perfect place to further learn about yourself and your culture. I chose this over a PWI because it's the only time in your life when you have an opportunity to develop yourself culturally while being surrounded by so many others with a like mind. Attending an HBCU gave me a foundation that still serves me well today.

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

I attended FAMU during the time when Time Magazine named the University the College of the Year. I was also at FAMU during the Presidency of Dr. Fred Humphries, during the height of the booming STEM focus in the United States, which continues today more than 20 years later. And how can I not mention the world renown Marching 100 band? Hands down the BEST band in the land. My experience was very rich... well... because Rattlers will STRIKE STRIKE and STRIKE again!

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

My 1st time experience is around FAMU/FSU College of Engineering. The COE is unique in the state of Florida in that FAMU and FSU share the College of Engineering. The professors could be either FSU or FAMU faculty. The students were from either school as well. It is a very unique experience, one where an HBCU and a PWI have a joint interest in the success of our future engineers.

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

I don't have anyone professor in particular that impacted my life but I can say that those staff who

managed the NASA scholars program instilled in me the need to be successful and the necessity of it for those generations that were to come.



**6. What to date has been your proudest moment @ Your HBCU?**

My proudest moment to date has been championing an alumni fund raiser, The "College of Engineering 2018 Alumni Brick" campaign. In that campaign, with support from University Giving, I was able to raise over \$15,000 for the College of Engineering endowment fund by encouraging alums nationwide to purchase bricks laid along FAMUs 21st century walkway on campus.