



## **Shamika Williams-Minisee, Alabama A & M University- c/o 2004, Business Administration with a concentration in Management**



**Name :** Shamika Williams-Minisee

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

**Graduation Year :** 2004

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

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

I am from St. Louis Missouri. I first heard about HBCUs from my mother, she went to Harris Teachers College which is now Harris Stowe University.



Professor Dike at AAMU | Image Credit: aamu.edu/

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

I chose an HBCU over a pwi because it was instilled in me as a young child. I remember the stories that teachers took care of the students and that the experience at an HBCU was priceless. Looking back at my experience on the hill, I couldn't agree more. I came to visit AAMU during homecoming in 1999. Homecoming week was ALL THE WAY LIVE, the campus was beautiful, the band was AMAZING and I was hooked. I actually applied to three other HBCU's and one pwi and was accepted but I became a Bulldog the minute I stepped on the yard.

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

The story of my experience to date at AAMU is the bonds that I've made. Aside from learning from the best, I met and married my best friend, I am still friends with those that I met my freshman year and above all, I get this tingly feeling the minute I turn the corner and see the "hill".

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

First love, and first heartbreak all happened on the hill.

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

I'd say that Mr. Dyke left a lasting impression upon me as a student. While studying business and management information systems he was a major component to my success. Mr. Dyke made learning fun and he actually took the time to joke with us as well as get to know us.



**6. What sports and/or extra curricular activities did you do in High School? And why?**

I was a cheerleader, on the dance team, student gov rep, debate team and in fbla. I chose to stay active because it just came natural to me.

**7. Best restaurants on/near campus? Best dishes?**

WING SHACK...I enjoyed the lemon pepper wings the most.

**8. College crush?**

HA!

**9. Ghost stories involving buildings or spots on campus?**

Not that I can remember.

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

Initially I majored in computer science but quickly discovered that I was not interested in programming and learning so much language. Although I am a geek, I'm a cool one. Therefore, I chose Business Administration with a concentration in Management Information Systems. I choose Business Administration because it suits me best. I have my hand in a lot of things and several things interest me and the great thing is, they all fit the Business Admin puzzle.

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

My proudest moment at my HBCU will come to pass when one of the youth I mentor be it one of my three children, one of my host of nieces and nephews or a child from church applies, gets accepted and graduates from that University.

**12. Where are the spots to go to if you wanted to cuddle with your boy or girlfriend?**

The spots.....definitely the park down town for night walks.

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

A&M A&M A&M A&M U...WOOOOOOOOOO A BOOTY BOOTY! HA!

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

Of course I was active. I was the VP of the St. Louis Club, I was also a campus queen one year (Ms. St. Louis) in the student government association, on the pep squad, in FBLA, University Echoes and the Pre-Alumni Association.

**15. Where is the "yard" located?**

Normal Alabama

**16. What and where are the historical places on campus?**

Council Hall and Hurt Hall

**17. What to date has been your saddest moment at your HBCU?**

N/A

**18. What situation in your life made you feel like you had arrived into woman/manhood?**

March 18, 2004, when I gave birth to my first child, while on spring break and I was back in school on March 22, 2004 because I had to graduate!

**19. How do you deal with racism when you encounter it?**

I think that I shake it off. Being a darker skinned black woman, I've dealt with racism all of my life.

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

I overcame my nervousness about going to college by going back home to visit every chance I got!

**21. How did your HBCU prepare you for a diverse workplace?**

My HBCU prepared me for a diverse workplace by teaching the students to love themselves. Once this is mastered, diversity is easy. Based on my experiences at AAMU I can walk in a room of 100 people, non black and be able to be myself.

**22. What advice would you give high school students filling out college applications for the first time?**

I would tell the student to ask for help, google the instructions, speak to a staff at school and even go to social media to seek out information from sites like this. Someone is always here to help.

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

You can do it. Get up, get out, and get something.

**24. Are you a member of a sorority?**

I pledged Delta Sigma Theta but not at my University.