



Trease Hinton, Grambling State University- c/o 1988, Business Management



Name : Trease Hinton

Your HBCU : Grambling State University

Graduation Year : 1988

Major : Business Management

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

I'm from the small north Louisiana town of Sarepta. Every Black student from my town and the nearby area, with the exception of one person, attended my HBCU, Grambling State University, so it was a no-brainer that I would attend the institution, too.



"On a personal level, my first love was found on the yard at Grambling State University. I attended my first fraternity party at Grambling."

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

As I was the only Black student in my high school graduation class, and one of a scant few in the entire school, kindergarten through 12th grade, I always knew that I would attend a school filled with people who looked like me and one where I would learn more about my own culture.

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

I always tell people that there is an incredible air of belonging at Grambling State University. From the moment you step on the yard, you get the feeling that you're among your people and that you're going to flourish. Grambling prides itself on being the place where everybody is somebody.

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

On a personal level, my first love was found on the yard at Grambling State University. I attended my first fraternity party at Grambling. On a scholastic level, I experienced the first true challenges to my academic knowledge at Grambling. I learned that the mind should always be flexible enough to allow for additional knowledge.

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

Dr. Ruby Lewis was my freshman year English professor. She had a no-holds-barred approach to teaching and didn't accept any excuse for less than college-level work. Dr. Rebecca Lewis was my sophomore year English professor and had a level of calm that would help anyone become more

focused on becoming the best they could be.

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

Giving birth to my one and only son, William Henry Hinton III, who is a student at the great HBCU, University of Arkansas Pine Bluff.

7. What is your process when you are going through a hardship that you have never faced before?

As the survivor of 19 years of domestic violence/abuse that was so debilitating, I suffered an aneurysm, I believe that self-love is essential to knowing who and what you are. I promised God that if He allowed me to live after that day (July 21, 2009), I would spend my days sharing my story in order that another person understands that abuse is NOT normal and that there is life after the hell of domestic violence.