



What is one of your favorite quotes?

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do." – Edward Everett Hale, American Author

Travis Taylor:

What or who motivated you to persist through college to earn your degree?

My parents knew I was destined for college, and they encouraged me to find my niche and go to school. When mom and dad dropped me off at Hester College in the fall of 2007, I began a four-year journey to make them proud. It was the confidence my parents had in me that got me to Murray State University, but it was the organizations I joined that gave me the drive to stay and succeed. Being elected Freshman Senator and joining Sigma Phi Epsilon in the Fall of my Freshman year were dramatic inflection points for my college career. The fellow students, faculty, and staff that I encountered as a result of being involved in student organizations gave me the inspiration I needed to earn more than a degree at Murray State- I found lifelong friends, and sharpened the skills I needed to launch my career.

What advice would you give other first-generation students?

Get involved, ask questions, and jump in! Student organizations (from SGA to Greek Life, and everything in between) offer you the opportunity to learn critical thinking and leadership skills that cannot be honed in the classroom. Join an organization, contribute to the goals of the group, and do your best to become a leader. If you aren't sure what to join, ask fellow students and faculty/staff members for direction. You'll know when you've found the right organization to serve- when you find it, jump in head-first.

What is one of your favorite quotes?

Winston Churchill once said, "Continuous effort, not strength or intelligence, is the key to unlocking our potential." Whether you're the first in your family to go to college, or a fourth generation Racer- it is