

FIRST- GENERATION DRAGONS



Meet: Rachel Klingshirn, First-Generation College Student and Tiffin University Alumni

Hometown: Tiffin, OH

Advice for first-generation students: Never give up on your dreams you can and will succeed if you work hard, have fun, and ask for help when you need it!

Campus Involvement: I perform with the Tiffin University Choir, and it has been one of the greatest decisions I've ever made!

Motivation to go to college: I wanted to make something of myself and prove those who doubted me wrong. Now that I graduated this past May, I hope I can inspire people to chase their dreams as I have!

Biggest collegiate accomplishment: My biggest collegiate accomplishment is being the first to graduate from college in my family. It hasn't been an easy journey, but I've made it!!!

Fun Fact

On average, first-generation college students utilize on-campus resources (financial aid services, tutoring, etc) more than traditional students.



Meet: Rachel Simpson, First-Generation College Student

Hometown: Newcomerstown, OH

Advice for first-generation students: Do not be afraid to put yourself out there, this is how you make connections for your future. Ask questions, there are a multitude of people here at TU that can help you! Be yourself and try something new!

Campus Involvement: I am a peer mentor for first-year students and play rugby. I also work for Seneca Mentoring Youth links and Tiffin Hall and Housing Association

Motivation to go to college: From a young age, I had big dreams; I wanted nothing but to accomplish them. I knew from the beginning that I wanted to be something more and that I wanted to help others.

Biggest collegiate accomplishment: I have had two significant accomplishments thus far in college and those are consecutively making the dean's list and getting to shadow the chief of investigations at the Chicago medical examiner's office.

Meet: Cerrese Bejarano, First-Generation College Student

Hometown: San Diego, CA

Advice for first-generation students: If you get a refund from your financial aid, save it!

Campus Involvement: I am part of the health and wellness club, and I also play women's lacrosse!

Motivation to go to college: Being able to provide for my family and me.

Biggest collegiate accomplishment: Deciding to earn a dual major and minor in my undergraduate studies



Meet: Taylor Hites, First-Generation College Student



Hometown: Belle Center, OH

Advice for first-generation students: My advice would be to stay on top of your work but also go experience and make connections. Never be afraid to ask questions. Time goes by fast, before you know it you will be graduating. Take in the moments with your friends.

Campus Involvement: I am a part of the women's wrestling program.

Motivation to go to college: My biggest motivation was my mom; I couldn't have done it without her. I also wanted to earn my degree and wrestle in college

Biggest collegiate accomplishment: My biggest collegiate accomplishments have been being a 3x all-American in wrestling along with 3x academic all American status.

