

FIRST-GENERATION DRAGONS

• October 2022: Issue 21 •

Name: Je'Shaun Gates, first-generation college student and first-year grad student

Hometown: Akron, OH

Advice for incoming first-generation college students: Be sure to pay attention and be organized

Motivation to go to college: Remember why you started and look forward to when you'll finish. College isn't the easiest task but with dedication and perseverance, you can achieve your biggest dreams!

Biggest collegiate accomplishment: The presentation of my senior thesis has been my biggest accomplishment. Seeing something I worked so hard on and put countless hours into receiving recognition was fulfilling!

Name: Lindsey New, first-generation college student and graduate student

Hometown: Fayette, OH

Advice for incoming first-generation college students: Take one step at a time!

Motivation to go to college: My grandma, I promised her I would go to college.

Biggest accomplishment: Making the Deans list!

Name: Charles White, First-Generation College Student and online undergrad student

Hometown: Palmdale, CA

Advice for incoming first-generation college students: It is never too late to get a quality education. Work hard, and you will reap your benefits.

Motivation to go to college: Working a job that does nothing to help others motivated me to go back to college and get an education that will better equip me in helping people rather than penalizing them.

Biggest Collegiate Accomplishment: My biggest collegiate accomplishment was obtaining my associate's degree; a journey I began in 2009 and completed last summer, 2021.

Activities: I am an avid cyclist and I partake in group rides most weekends.

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