
Letter: U of M exceeds expectations

Staff Reports

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In the summer of 2009 I transferred from the University of Mississippi to the University of Memphis. When I told people of my decision most were in shock and contributed it to a poor academic performance. This could not have been further from the truth as I carried at 4.0 GPA and was on the Chancellor's Honor Roll, the highest bi-yearly honor at the University of Mississippi. I simply could not afford the out-of-state tuition like I assumed I could when I entered college in 2007.

I do not deny that transferring to the University of Memphis was something that was a last resort. I had heard of its reputation and expected no more than what the average Rebel would say about the school.

After two years at the University of Memphis, in the Fogelman College of Business, I came to the conclusion that they were blinded by a prevailing ideology that schools outside of UT, Ole Miss and Mississippi State were places for failures. I took "business core" classes at both schools, and there were zero differences in difficulty. I had just as many wonderful teachers at the University of Memphis as I did at Ole Miss and the same for bad teachers.

The University of Memphis' recruiting opportunities have led me to an internship with KPMG, the second- largest accounting firm in the world. Rajiv Grover, the dean of the business college, has revamped the program and is trending in a very positive direction. Carolyn Callahan, the director of the accounting program, has turned the school of accountancy around. Many students are being placed in the "Big 4," the Holy Grail for accounting majors.

The horrible graduation rate should be a priority to fix. The administrative support is the most dreadful thing I have ever come across. Of course there is room for improvement, but what school does not have this?

Let's change the attitude we have of our local university and -- more importantly -- show a bit more respect to the people who are paying for an education from it in hopes of a better future instead of ostracizing them because of a reputation the school carries.

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