SUCCESS TIPS FROM HAAMI GRADUATES

1.21.21
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• Take college seriously from the beginning.
• Your GPA is like credit. If you mess it up, it’s hard to get it back.
• Review evaluations of professors when you’re choosing your classes.
• Be about business in class. You’re there to accomplish a task. Professors will read your energy.
• Build a relationship with your professors early on. Don’t wait until the end of the semester.
• Talk with your professors one-on-one about class expectations and opportunities for extra credit.
• If professors see a good work ethic, they’re more likely to recommend you for opportunities.
• Graduating is an expectation. Set your goal for excellence.
• Think about the end (graduation) from the beginning.
IMPORTANCE OF ADVISING

• Have multiple advisors, beyond just your academic advisor so that you can have different perspectives.
• Take control and ownership. Be responsible for your life. Go to advising sessions prepared, knowing what courses you need and what you can handle.
• Remember, you're the boss with advising. Have a plan for your whole college experience.
• Advisor’s role is to support, suggest and approve your plan.
• Take the advice you're given and use it as a framework to make your decisions.
• Find an advisor you trust and who is going to work with you.
• You can change your advisor.
• Communicate to people what your dreams are so that they can help you.
• Know yourself and be honest about what you can and can’t handle.
• Don’t be afraid to switch or expand your path.
HANDLING CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES

• Don’t let the freedoms of college life distract you from your goals.
• Don’t be too proud to ask for help.
• Use the resources that are there to help you.
• Get help and support from each other. Iron sharpens steel.
• Challenges and disappointments are growth opportunities. Pressure makes diamonds.
• Obstacles help you mature and grow.
• Figure out how to balance when you get overwhelmed.
• Don’t try to be everything to everyone. Sometimes you have to say no.
PERSONAL GROWTH

• Don’t make fear-informed decisions. Don’t be afraid to step out of your comfort zone.
• Be driven. Make things happen for yourself.
• Don’t let other people discourage you.
• Have people in your life who will speak hard truths to you.
• Good enough isn’t enough. Do above and beyond.
• You have to be accountable for your decisions, and hold other people accountable.
• Take advantage of opportunities that are offered to you, even if it’s not something you’re comfortable with.
• Don’t focus on just opportunities with pay. You can benefit from volunteering. You will be experience, knowledge, and networking.
• Start thinking about your finances now.
• Men represent our communities. Think about the people coming after you.
• Remember that eyes are always on you. Someone observing you might be able to help you later in life.
• Be aware of your personal brand and how you represent yourself.
• Get a mentor.
• Networking is as important as your degree.
• Be around people who will speak hard truths to you.
• Network with professors. If they endorse you, they’ll help you with a lot of opportunities.
• Go to networking events, especially like the HAAMI dinner and the Hooks Institute gala.
• Support each other. When one of us wins, we win as a group and as a community.
• Take advantage of the resources and opportunities offered to you.