



Brian: A Celebration of Success

A year ago when the economy of the world transformed and we were poised on the verge of a depression, I thought back to when I had my heart attack a year prior; and the dream I had yet to accomplish, and the reality within a question—do I really want to continue doing the same thing every day for the rest of my life?

So I decided in a split second that I wanted to restructure my life, and that it would involve going back to college.

I could have picked any university/college within the world. I had no obligations since the family issues that brought me back to Zanesville from Los Angeles had been resolved. ***I never thought that one of the top ranked colleges in the United States would be in my backyard.***

But after I did my research on several universities, I found that Zane State College has an A-rating overall, and a solid student graduation rate. ***So I compared Zane State College's cost per year versus other campuses—and after punching in the figure, Zane State College won.***

The biggest challenge I encountered was getting back to a proper study cycle. Forcing myself to get my books out and do the homework properly—not postponing to the last minute... as I did so many years ago.

There is one thing I observed about Zane State College: They have developed their curriculum to give a student every opportunity to excel. [Starting with] the professors—who will do everything possible to keep a student from failing! There are so many diverse outlets that contribute to your educational success. From your student advisor to the student success center—they are all there to assist you, whether in person or by email. Then there is the Learning Center when you need that extra attention, explanation, or development of a subject. Every department at Zane State College is there to contribute to making your educational experience prosperous and enjoyable. Trust me—after 30 years out of school, I used every single resource at Zane State College and never once received a negative response. ***Because of that guidance I will be receiving my degree.***

I could have easily taken my associate degree and found employment within my new chosen profession of environmental science...but I am going to continue my education [and earn a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science] at Muskingum University. I am deeply grateful to Zane State College for giving me every opportunity to succeed!