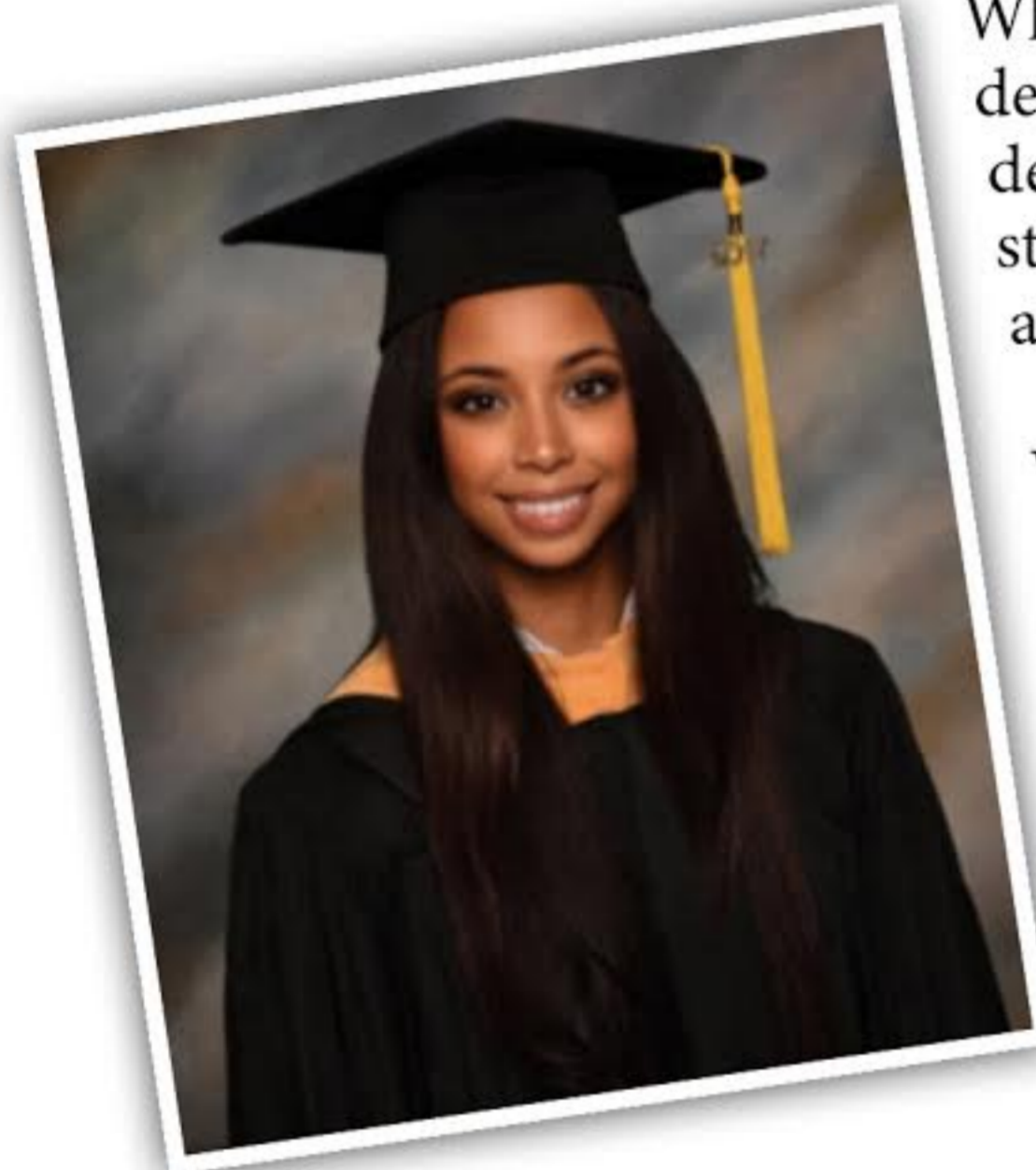


Xavier is supportive

Autumn Saizan graduated May 13, 2017 from Xavier University of Louisiana. She left New Orleans at the age of ten due to Hurricane Katrina and made Houston, Texas home. Autumn knew about Xavier from successful friends and family that also attended Xavier University. She states that she wanted to major in premed and Xavier was a no brainer for her. It also afforded her an opportunity to be closer to her Grandparents that still reside in the city.



When asked about the premed department Autumn states, "The department is great and informs students on test-prep and what's available to them."

While other premed programs encourage a competitive spirit between students, Xavier is just the opposite. "At orientation we were told that the people sitting next to us will be sitting next to us when we graduate. *I never felt like a number at Xavier.*

Friends at other premed programs don't have hands on advisers and teachers that show an interest in you like they do here at Xavier. Medical school is so hard and competitive and it really helps to have such supportive teachers and staff. People celebrate your acceptance into medical school...sometimes people you don't even know are paying attention to that and come to you and tell you congratulations. *Xavier is supportive.* Autumn said.

Last summer Autumn spent eight weeks doing research at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine. She will attend University of Rochester Medical Center for medical school in the Fall 2017. Autumn is undecided as to what she'll do her residency in but states Dermatology and Pediatrics are her top interest.

Dr. Jamaan Kenner, M.D., '12

How did Xavier prepare you in your first year as an OB/GYN resident?

Ms. QV, the pre-med advisor, gets students prepared early on in the process and that's key. She is really the backbone of the pre-med office and is a major reason why we get so much notoriety. Xavier prepared me by getting me accepted into medical school. In my opinion, the biggest thing that a pre-med program can do is guide its students through the application process and this is exactly what Ms. QV and the rest of the office did for me. Xavier also offered me lifelong connections of Xavier alumni, particularly M.D.'s, that have put me into connection with people in my field.



What attracted you to OB/GYN?

It was the only rotation that I liked as a 3rd year student. I love being in the operating room, but I also like to have patient continuity. This is the essence of OB/GYN. Also, bringing life into the world is a feeling unlike any other.

What are your plans after your 4-year residency?

I will seek a two-year fellowship in Minimally Invasive Surgery. This will afford me extra training in laparoscopic and robotic surgery. These minimally invasive techniques allow patients to avoid the longer recovery of open surgery.

What would you like to tell people about Xavier?

Xavier is a big family. Everyone looks out for each other. Also, it is pushing people into medicine which isn't something African Americans traditionally go into. Having classmates and alumni that look like you with similar aspirations makes it all that much more achievable.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Science Academy

JUNE - JULY 2017

BIO Star ★ CHEMStar ★ MATHStar

Summer Science Academy STARS Program includes a series of three model programs geared towards early exposure and enrichment in math and science. Aimed at middle school and high school students who have expressed interest in science related careers.

<http://www.xula.edu/summerprograms/documents/STARSInformation.pdf>

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING XAVIER UNIVERSITY!



Xavier is doing the work

Briaunna Minor, '16 is from Minneapolis, Minnesota. She credits her counselor for giving her a list of 99 Unsung (college) Heroes and seeing Xavier University on that list. The Early Assurance program sealed her decision to attend Xavier.

“The pre-med office here at Xavier engages you and connects you immediately to the resources you need to move forward.” Briaunna states.

By the end of freshman year Briaunna formed a friendship and community with her fellow classmates that would be continuing on with medical school. Those relationships made a world of difference for her.

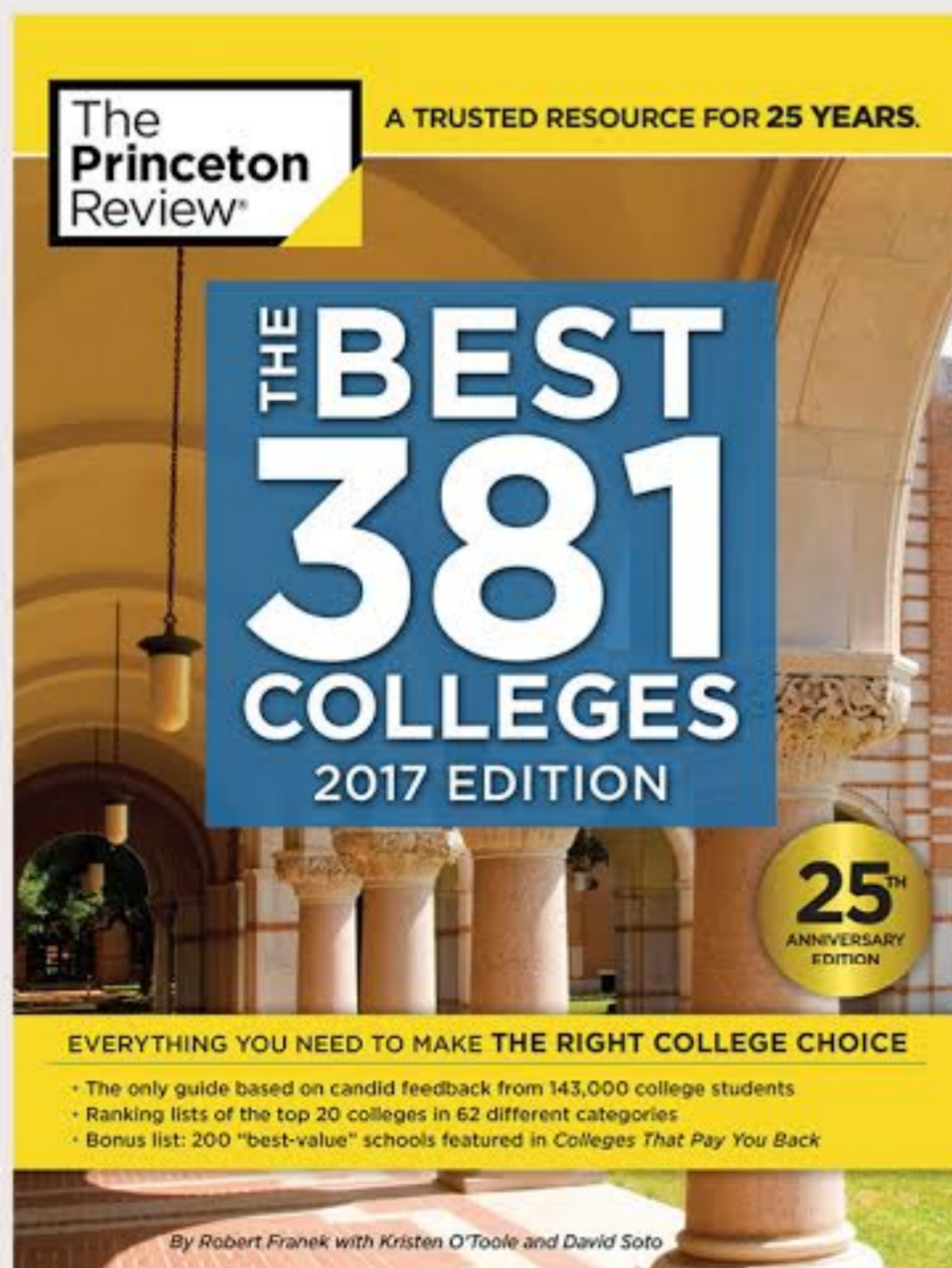
“When you’re not sure your dreams are going to manifest I had the people to push me and help me alter my goals to be realistic. People said I probably wouldn’t be able to do a MD PhD but Xavier allowed me to build a network of people that are willing to help me. They kept me on point. I received emails from the department just checking on me and seeing where I was spiritually.”

Briaunna is currently in her first year of the MD-PhD program at University of Rochester. She plans to study Infectious Disease and potentially hematology/oncology.

When asked what she would like people to know about Xavier University Briaunna passionately states, “*Xavier is doing the work* and putting minority students and underrepresented students into medical school. If we’re really about the business of creating a more just society we have to provide the students to enhance the representation of African-American and minority students in medicine. Xavier University has proven that they can do just that.”

Xavier University is listed in The Princeton Review’s “Best 381 Colleges” 2017 edition

143,000 students were surveyed on their college experiences and Xavier made the cut as a Best College. You can read more of what our students had to say about Xavier by visiting: http://www.xula.edu/mediarelations/2017_princetonreviewprofile.pdf.



The New York Times America’s Great Working Class Colleges

The New York Times OpEd piece, “America’s Great Working Class Colleges”, suggests that Xavier is No. 6 in the nation for social mobility and student transformation. Positions in the “Upward Mobility 10” were determined comparing the percent of students from the bottom fifth of income distribution who ended up in the top three-fifths of income following their graduations.



May 13, 2017 Xavier University Summa Cum Laude graduates entering University of Rochester Medical School through Early Acceptance Tylia Johnson, Autumn Saizan and Renee Miller



Scholarship recipients at our April 18, 2017, Scholarship Luncheon. Over one-hundred guests attended including supporters of our annual and endowed scholarships.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING XAVIER UNIVERSITY!