



NCCWSL 2016

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

What did you like/learn at NCCWSL?

NCCWSL was an exhilarating and phenomenal experience that took me on a path of self-discovery. I now can say that I have sisters by my side that will empower and encourage me in my many endeavors. The women I have met at this conference made me realize that I need to be fearless in my many endeavors and take risks to succeed. I really liked the various keynote speakers that the conference had through their stories I learned more about myself, and my goals and aspirations. I learned that it is okay to be my authentic self to the world around me and beyond, I learned that it is necessary to live life to the fullest by daring myself to try the things that I fear the most, and I learned that I already had the raw materials to be a successful leader and activist I just needed to share my ideals and network with the world. This conference showed me that I am brave, bold, and a powerful women student leader, and I just need to bring these tools to school and my future profession.

What would you change?

I would change the fact that there aren't more student leaders presenting at the conference itself. I feel the best way to learn how to be a powerful student leaders is to learn from other student leaders, and having some that made strides and changes on their campuses would have made my conference experience more phenomenal. I also would have like to have seen more successful women of color presenting at the conference. Being an African American and Native American brings challenges to being a leader not only is it difficult to be a woman in todays society, being a women of color brings its own challenges. I am grateful that there was some keynote speakers of color and workshop leaders but I would have felt more inclusive if I learned ways to beat the race barrier on my college campus or upon graduation in the real world. I greatly admired the conference just those two changes would have brought the conference experience to the next level for me personally, and I'm sure other women of color might feel the same.

Would you recommend NCCWSL to friends?

Yes, a million times yes. I actually plan on recommending it to friends, and I already have amongst my sorority group and I hope they take the words I say seriously and attend. I now can say that I have lifelong friends that will encourage me and be by my side forever thanks to NCCWSL. I can now say that I have an idea of what to do after college to make changes in the world, and graduate schools to apply and look into. I'm sure that a huge portion of my friends want that security as well. Honestly, if I could attend again I would. People have noticed a change in me and they constantly say, "wow you seem so passionate and driven lately, what changed?" And every single time I reply, "I went to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders and so should you."



Thank you so much AAUW-Ann Arbor for supporting my trip, and giving me the resources to succeed. I love you all!

AND REMEMBER

"Be you stay true, be beautiful!" -Destinee Leapheart