

Not being a first generation college student, I thought I had a pretty good idea of what my college experience was going to be like. After all, both my dad and my sister went to college. I thought it was all about the life lessons as well as all of the classroom learning, and as it turns out, I think I was right.

I have learned quite a few things about myself, but I haven't had an earth-shattering revelation just yet. I've learned that (thankfully) it's okay to not walk in with a major already declared, and that it's okay to not feel like the smartest person in the room--a feeling that I was very used to at my high school.

I've also learned a lot more little, but very crucial, things that the university didn't explicitly teach me. I've learned how to curb my little bouts of road rage while driving down I-25 North. I didn't even know I had a road-raging bone in my body until I had to make the 45-minute commute five days a week

I've learned that I'm not as philosophical or as deep of a thinker as some of my other classmates, and that's okay, too. A university is all about bringing people together with different backgrounds into the same learning environment, right?

And I found out just today how important it is to eat breakfast (especially when lunch is at 1:30), that way you don't have to e-mail a professor saying that you don't remember the most important part of the conversation you had, and can you please remind me what we talked about? How embarrassing.

Quinn Johnshoy
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My Idea of a University

So in addition to all of the academia and scholarly lessons I've been taught, the university so far has not failed to teach me some important life lessons, too. Thus far, I've learned about citations, the ideal gas law, what ecological succession is, and how to have a halfway decent conversation in Spanish about Halloween. But as strange as it sounds, I do think that the university is there to introduce me to myself. I'm there to learn about subjects I am already passionate about and to explore things in greater depth that I am curious about. I'm there on my journey to becoming independent and figuring out how I ought to live. and the university is there to help facilitate answering that question.

So hello, Quinn. I'm looking forward to getting to know you better over these next four years.