

Charlene Hills

Professor Smalls

College Experience 20S2

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Reflection Paper

I enjoyed everything about the interview. I cannot point out one specific point, but I can point out several points that I appreciated and stood out to me. This interview produces good PR for smaller institutions like Benedict. We often hear a lot about Howard, Spelman, North Carolina A&T but we never hear anything about smaller institutions. I believe this interview shines a light on colleges/universities that are less known and opens people's eyes to invest in smaller HBCU's like Central State or Lane College. I like how Dr. Artis points out the main issue with most HBCU's which is funding. I am not going to touch on that here but I appreciate how she was open about how most people can't afford to attend an HBCU because it is too expensive and doesn't provide enough aid to students.

I think that the significance of this interview is to make sure that black people have an outlet to be who they are and become successful. I appreciate how Dr. Artis stated how most successful black people are a product of an HBCU which says a lot. She also points out how her goal at Benedict is to ensure that her students learn how to be successful in school by learning things that are providing high paying careers. HBCU's helps you network with other people who look like you and understand your struggle which leads to you getting opportunities from someone who looks like you. This interview shows how HBCU's produce successful people like one of the members of the Breakfast Club DJ Envy who went to Hampton University. This

interview shows how we need to stop downplaying HBCU's and invest in them more than we do.

What I can do to individually support Benedict College by working hard to become successful enough to provide funding to the school. Like I mentioned in an earlier paragraph funding is very important for many institutions but especially for HBCU's to provide education and opportunities to black students. Therefore, providing funding to Benedict as a donor or just offering students an internship will be my contribution to giving back to the school that helps me get to where I am in the future. Another way to preserve Black History is by investing more into HBCU's by sending my future children to one. They do not have to go to Benedict (even though that would be nice) but sending black kids to institutions that were built for them can preserve HBCU's and probably provide HBCU's an increase in federal funding.

Dr. Artis's interview with The Breakfast Club was inspiring to me because she is the first female president of Benedict College and she pointed out many things that I was not aware of. She gave me another perspective on HBCU's and giving back to help institutions that are struggling. Like she mentions it is a win for all HBCU's when one HBCU is getting recognized, but I believe HBCU's should help to struggle HBCU's. It does not have to be much but if different schools partner with each other to provide opportunities to lowkey income black communities to help them have an option to get a higher education.