

William Anyu- (Minnesota State University at Mankato)

NSE Student 2010-2011

Coming from Minnesota State University at Mankato, William Anyu desired to venture from the Land of 10,000 lakes to Eagle Land at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) with the National Student Exchange (NSE) program, during the 2010-2011 academic year. Willy, as he is affectionately known, made the decision to select NCCU to attend for an academic year. This decision was steered by his desire to experience a historically black institution. He had some familiarity to North Carolina through stories from family and friends who had visited the state, so he felt fully prepared for this undertaking.

Reflecting back to when he first arrived onto NCCU's campus he mentions, "It was strange at first, it reminded me of the movie Stomp the Yard or Drumline, but I felt an immediate sense of welcome."

He goes on to recall an overwhelming sense of pride when he passed through the doors of his NCCU professors. He noticed that each had the title Doctor preceding their name, that each shared in his African ancestry; this created a poignant moment for William. The acknowledgement of black scholars and those holding doctorate degrees allowed him to recognize what he aspires to become.

Willy excites in his experience at NC Central, "Being here (NCCU) changed me for the better, it forced me to think critically, change the way I speak and interact with professionals. NCCU taught me how to act professionally and how to stay aware of your behavior so that you are always putting your best foot forward. I also learned that if I want to get something out of life I must go out there and get it myself."

During his time at NCCU, William joined or was inducted into the following organizations:

Student Activities Board (SAB)

Screaming Eagles (Pep Squad)

Centennial Scholars Program

Executive Director of Public Relations for Student Government Association

RA Position at Eagle Landing for Summer and Fall

Hosted Two Programs- Battle of the Sexes and Reaching the Motherland

Willy credits NCCU with providing diverse experiences which he frequently recalls in his academic and personal life. Through his involvement with organizations and scholastic societies at NCCU he has an immense appreciation and preparation for the global landscape he will soon enter.

In offering advice to incoming NSE students, Willy highly suggests that you "Be yourself, be open to new opportunities, make the most of your experiences, and get involved on campus."

He has enjoyed his experience so much, that he elected to complete his collegiate studies with NCCU.