Sabrina Fleming
From: St. George, Grenada
Studies: Human Resource Management

Why did you choose Purdue?
I chose Purdue because of my husband. He came here one year before I did and studied Computer Science. He knew I wanted to study Human Resource Management and so he looked into the program at Krannert and encouraged me to apply.

What is your favorite fact about Purdue?
I really like that Purdue has an extensive international student population. This has led to great results in science, technology, business and arts because of the diversity of ideas and perspectives shared.

Please briefly describe your research:
My degree is a professional master’s that does not require a thesis per se, but I am involved in a consulting project required for graduation. It is based on exploring the area of performance management and the trends occurring within this area through extensive research and benchmarking. We have created a holistic view of how performance management has evolved over the past 5-10 years while discovering the reasons for the need for change at each phase. It’s some pretty exciting stuff to know before you go into the workforce as a manager.

Name one to three words that best describes your work?
Essential to business success.

Where do you spend most of your time on campus?
I spend most of my time at Rawls Hall or at Krannert Parish Library.

If you have free time, how do you choose to spend it?
I choose to connect with friends and family since they are so far away and in various time zones. I also try to go out with my classmates to get to chat about life rather than school.

Current mobile device/computer:
iPhone 6s, Macbook Air.

What apps, software, or tools can’t you live without?
WhatsApp, GroupMe, Microsoft Outlook, Office, Wunderlist Spotify or Google Music.

What’s your workspace setup like?
My workspace has to have a large window; somewhere I can look out at the horizon and think/gain inspiration from people walking by etc., sharing and a whiteboard space and either speakers or headphones nearby to play my music when I really need to tune in and concentrate.

What’s your best time-saving shortcut?
Command Key + space bar on a mac. It’s not my hack but it saves me so much time when looking for files and ensuring I don’t have duplicate copies on my machine.

What’s your favorite to-do list manager?
Wunderlist. I love it because it’s intuitive and has productivity options that help you get your to-do list right. It can be used on your computer and your phone and it syncs immediately.

Besides your phone and computer, what gadget can’t you live without?
Wireless headphones. I really dislike the tangling that happens at times with wires - it wastes so much time.

What do you listen to while you work?
When it comes to more creative, opinion related work, I have to have music. My ideas just flow better when I can hear something upbeat. There’s a catch, though: it can’t be music I recognize. That’s when I get distracted and start singing etc. So, I choose playlists that have just the right tempo that suits my mood and I make sure that at least 70% of the music is unrecognizable. Silence I use for precision and extreme concentration.

What everyday thing are you better at than everyone else?
I’m really good at baking! I don’t know if it’s an everyday thing, but I love the way my last pumpkin pie came out.

I’d love to see ________ answer these same questions.
Sheryl Sandberg.

What are you currently reading, or what is the last thing you read (aside from academic reading)?
The Fifth Vial by Michael Palmer.

What’s your sleep routine like?
I’m normally an early riser but grad school has changed that. I really just get as much sleep whenever I can.

How do you recharge physically and/or mentally?
Physically, a good 5k run can do the trick. Mentally, I have to sort of “get away from it all”. Visiting a new place and meeting new people usually does it for me.

What’s the best advice you’ve ever received?
Don’t be ashamed of who you are and where you come from. Rather, use it as a tool to distinguish yourself from others and to show your resilience.

What is (are) your career goal(s)?
To become a leader in the field of Human Resource Management and influence the way things are done in the industry through personal and professional growth.

Where can we find you on social media?
https://twitter.com/sbgfleming
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Purdue is centrally located in West Lafayette, Indiana - approximately two hours south of Chicago, Illinois and one hour north of Indianapolis, IN.

Questions? Email gradinfo@purdue.edu