



**Ralph Simpson, Jr.**  
Class of 1997

Ralph Simpson, a native of Foster City, CA lettered for the 1995 and 1996 seasons on the Tuskegee University Men's Tennis Team. He played both the #1 Singles and Doubles positions for each match and was named Team Captain & MVP both seasons. His records over both seasons were 18-12 (singles) and 18-8 (doubles) which included six wins against Division-I competition. Simpson was named the MVP for two regular-season tournaments as well.

Aside from intercollegiate tennis, Simpson also was a member of the 1996 Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team and a three-time champion of the University's Annual Table-Tennis tournament. He graduated from Tuskegee in 1997 with a Degree in History and received his MBA degree from Auburn University in 2001.

After Tuskegee, Simpson continued to play competitive tennis at the amateur level, winning seven ATA National Championships. He earned the #1 ranking for Open Singles in two different states (*Delaware & Alabama*) and Open Doubles (*Alabama, partner: Andre Dixon*)—the only Black player to achieve this. He served as an Assistant Coach for the Auburn University Women's Tennis Team, becoming the first HBCU graduate to coach tennis in a Power-5 Conference.

Simpson currently serves as Director of Career Services at HBCU Huston-Tillotson University. He previously worked at Lincoln University (PA) in the Office of Career Services for 18+ years. As Director, Lincoln University achieved a 6-Month Job Placement Rate that ranked among the top-10 for all HBCU's. He also served 10 years as a member of the BOD for the Rodney Street Tennis and Tutoring Association and provided coaching to his high school's tennis team annually. Finally, Simpson collaborated with the Black Professionals of Bank of America in March of 2021 to provide Professional Development workshops to students at Howard H.S. (DE).

In 1998, a scholarship was established in his name, thru which Simpson has contributed thousands of dollars to Tuskegee.

A resident of Austin, Texas, Simpson credits God, his parents (*Mona Simpson and the late Ralph Simpson, Sr.*), The Dixon Family, Carl Ray, Michael Hill, Sr., Eric Chisholm, Lenny Gray, Ronnie Henry, TU Teammates, Coach Roy Israel, and Kevin Bolen for his success.