

ECON SPOTLIGHT: ROOSEVELT BOWMAN



Meet Roosevelt Bowman '99! Having received a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Williams, then his MBA from New York University in 2009, Roosevelt is currently the head of FX Trading and Strategy at MetLife, a global company that generates significant revenues in foreign currencies. Roosevelt explains, "My job is to help us hedge the exchange rate risk of the U.S. dollar against other currencies." As you can imagine, economics is a critical part of his role. "Deciding to buy or sell one currency against another," he says, "is heavily dependent

on the relative growth and monetary policy outlooks." Roosevelt's affinity for macroeconomics began at Williams, and he is grateful that he is able to use the skills he learned there on a daily basis.

Roosevelt's advice for all students hoping to put their Economics tools to use, like he has, is to take advantage of the Williams alumni network. He says, "Asking for advice helps you make a more informed decision while building a relationship that may eventually lead to job opportunities." Moreover, Roosevelt suggests refining your econometric skills. "Innovative uses of data across industries will continue to transform the economy. Having a solid statistical background with some programming experience will position you well at the start of your career." When applying for jobs and internships, Roosevelt suggests doing some research about what the company needs from someone at an entry level.

Roosevelt's best piece of advice for students of color navigating the Economics world is to reach out to alumni, especially those of color. He elaborates, "Most of us love to share our experiences, especially with younger people of color who are facing some of the same challenges we overcame." The alumni network is filled with people who are willing— and excited— to help ambitious students.