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Independent Study Mentorship

26 September, 2016

The One Where Interviews are like a Gem

Weekly Report 9/18-9/25

As September comes to an end, ISM interview set ups begin. This whole week was dedicated to setting up interviews with our noted professionals. Being able to connect with professionals is a major aspect of ISM. I contacted over 12 clinics and hospitals and was able to get one interview with the professional that I hope to have as my mentor.

One major challenge I was faced with was the fact that, the end of this week marked the beginning of Fall, also known as peak Allergy and Asthma season. Many of the clinics I called denied the request to set up an interviews as the doctors are too busy at this time of the year. Doctors/surgeons are very busy in general and getting a “yes” for an interview would be a very generous task for them. Keeping that in mind, I am continuing my search for the right mentors and using different connections into finding an available doctor.

I would say I was successful in the fact that I was able to get one interview with the most wanted professional in the near future. When I was creating my contact list for possible mentors, I was not able to find multiple pediatric immunologist, so I noted allergists and pediatricians that were experienced. Although getting different views and different angles around this topic will help the project, my biggest concern is it will not justify the need for integrative medicine. I

intend to find more pediatric immunologists through distant connections. Many successful ISM projects started off with interviews of professionals who were not directly related to the profession of interest. This helped the students attain a wealth of knowledge surrounding different aspects of their chosen topic.

This week we also covered the basics on creating a resume and getting our peers to edit and evaluate. A resume is where we can shine as an individual and show the world what we have excelled in and what experience we have. I have definitely learned how to appropriately place information and the right amount of information for the interviewers to evaluate off of. Quoted from many professionals, the resume “is the ticket to an interview” and is the first impression given to the professional. Studies have shown that when hiring employees, people only look at the resume for 30 seconds and continue to evaluate the candidate through other aspects. The resume is the one and only tool we have to impress the professionals.

In general the search for a professional experienced in integrative medicine with pediatric immunology has been ongoing and will continue to be through the next week. Many doctors in mind have not given a call back but have allowed for sometime with their assistants and nurse practitioners. As mentioned before, making connections and being able to network is a major aspect in being successful in this class and the real world. Next week we will sort out and make our portfolios. One step closer to finding the right mentor!