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Mr. Speice

Independent Study Mentorship

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The First is the Best!

Weekly Report 9/26-10/2

As October approaches, the first interview has been completed! This entire week was dedicated to calling and setting up interviews with professionals as well as reflecting on previous interviews. This week was relatively easy-going as we were able to catch up on finding interviews as well as complete the necessary work in order to be successful with this upcoming week.

This week was successful in the sense that I was able to have my first informational interview with Dr. Stokes, a pediatrician in Frisco. I have never experienced a real life interview except with ISM for the selection process. This concept was new to me and was quite nerve wracking at first. Public speaking skills are something that I would say I am proficient at, but one on one speaking was something that I wasn't very comfortable with. I would say with this interview I was able to overcome the sense of nervousness as the doctor was very easy going and nice to talk to. One of the biggest fears I had was having a boring and unengaging interview. The doctor shared her experience and her journey into becoming a pediatrician and fully explained her passion for her job. I was able to overcome the tension and nerves that could've affected my interview which would be a successful moment for this week.

Although I was able to attend an interview, I am in search of more interviews with doctors specialized in allergy and immunology which are in demand at this point of the year. Many doctors are helping many patients a day as it is allergy season in Texas. Although doctors are not denying my request into meeting them, they are unable to reach back to me. For my project I would really like to get the guidance of a doctor which is making the process a bit harder. A way to overcome this, I plan to call nurse practitioners or the doctor's assistants to make connections and network. Many such people can find a way to allow sometime with the doctor and eventually interview the doctor. One question that I keep using to guide myself when making calls and talking to receptionist is "Why would you like to devote your time to a high schooler?". This is the basis of all interview setups that I plan on having and will hopefully further reduce the sense of nervousness.

In class, our physical portfolios were set up as we were to decide the color theme of our entire project. The combination of pediatrics as well as allergy helped me to decide with a warm colored theme for my project. This will all tie into the digital profile as well and will hopefully make my project stand out. As I am still in the process of finding my mentor and interviewing professionals, questions relating to naturopathic medications as well as ayurveda are guiding questions for my mentor search too as integrative medicine is a new concept for many.

Next week will be the business symposium and the opportunity for every ISM student to conduct mock interviews as well as network with professionals! This will be a great chance for me to develop my communication skills and interact with more professionals in our community. The second six weeks starts with the ISM!