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Independent Study and Mentorship

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The First Time to Shine

Nerves, stress, tension and sleep less nights were just the beginnings to such a journey. The first time in my life where I got to present my work and explain to the my society the reasons for my passions and love for this field. This ISM Research showcase is the reason why I have gained self confidence and can share my passions with the world. From the girl who selected debate as an elective class to just follow her parents’ wishes and would sit at the back of the classroom, to someone who will talk for 15 to 20 minutes about why seasonal allergies are so common here in Texas, I believe I have grown. I believe that the confidence in my has risen. The urge to complete a task and perfect it to the best of my abilities is what I look towards. This past week, the 2017 ISM Research Showcase was one of my weekly highlights. Being able to talk to parents, teachers, students and mentors about what I am studying and why I chose to, was an experience that I will never forget. Public speaking was always a weakness of mine as I would get nervous and mix ideas with words and not make any sense. I was able to maintain a decent conversation and express my ideas to anyone that was interested in my board. Many appreciated my work and wished me all the success from this passion and chosen field of study. The encouraging words led to this sudden urge that wanted me to excel in my ISM journey even more that before and take on challenges to really push me. Way before Reedy High School was in session, our principal visited respective campuses to really enforce the general mission and goal of Reedy. A video was shown where just one degree of water can change its state from a liquid to a gas. Just .01 seconds can differentiate between first and second place. I have used those analogies to push myself to become that one degree and change the state of an object. I hope to use this showcase experience and the feedback that I received to really push myself that extra degree and create a final product that can really change the state of anything!

Along with the success of the annual Research showcase, I was finally able to complete and submit my original work product. A written and revised proposal sent to the state medicaid director regarding the coverage of alternative medications was the basis of the proposal. In creating the original work, I was able to fully understand comprehend the role of any insurance company and why they are so important here in America. I was able to understand that government owned agencies such as Medicare and Medicaid, have the most restrictions as to what can be covered and what cannot. Not all alternative medications are FDA approved, which leaves a gap between what can and cannot be approved by such insurance companies. I wanted to promote biochemical medications specifically which led me to support my proposal with statistics on how the average American spends around billion dollars each year on over the counter medications that are providing the benefits. With my original work I was able to get a doctor’s insight on insurance and was also able to apply marketing strategies into my plan. This helped me come up with the plan to meet with the marketing board at Children’s Medical in Plano and promote such medications there. Not only with this help with the credibility aspect, but it allows for the society to be aware of the types of medications that provide equal benefits.

All in all, this past week definitely a moment for me to take in and realize and appreciate the opportunities that are given to me. With such a platform like ISM, I am able to speak with professionals and ask them for their guidance on a year long project as well as speak with adults and professionals in different field about my project and future plan. I am excited to see what the final presentation night brings me and the journey till there!