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Independent Study & Mentorship

Mr. Speice 2A

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Ready... Set... Business Symposium!

Weekly Report 10/3/16 to 10/9/16

This week was largely focused on the ISM Business Symposium where all of the schools involved in ISM networked between other students and professionals. The interviews that I experienced with 3 individuals helped me become more professional and more prepared for an actual scenario in my ISM journey. However hot and sweaty the symposium was in Independence, I believe I was successful in getting some names down and developing better interpersonal skills.

I also was able to get more professional clothes as I am experiencing more interviews and having to wear a business professional outfit more often. This was very beneficial to me as it helps me look the part or “fake it ‘till I make it” (as we learned the first week in class) while doing more events in ISM. Also, I was able to seem more professional to my peers as I was using different outfits for various occasions. Specifically at the Business Symposium, I was able to use that given confidence of looking the part and applying it to how I spoke to the professionals and being more assured to approach them during the networking stage and exchanging names. The first hour of the symposium was incredibly important, even though I didn’t confer with professionals in my specific field, I was able to gain knowledge about the overall way to portray myself in a sophisticated manner. I talked with many marketing and sales people that were able

to give me overall advice on my resume and the way I acted in the interview. In the library, I spoke with two individuals that allowed me to ask what success and failures they had that led to the point in their career that they are currently at. This was very beneficial as I got to experience the education necessary of many different occupations and the balance of maintaining a work life with a social life from the perspective of those outside of my desired career path.

After networking and interviewing, a motivational speaker gave a lot of insight into the his individual successes and failures. He also said how he never envisioned himself as an author, but sometimes life leads you away from your original plan for the better. If it is truly your dream, then the passion to succeed will come, it just might take a lot of failures before getting one big success. This is truly motivating to me as I am able to realize that failures give me the knowledge of what to avoid and fix in order to become successful.

Many of my peers recommended me to talk to a pharmaceutical salesman that was at the symposium, but I was only briefly introduced to him. That is one part of the event that I regret as I could have spoken to a professional that is knowledgeable in my chosen topic of study and is aware of the ISM program. I contacted him the next day and scheduled an over the phone interview for this coming Friday. This interview would greatly impact my assessment in this field so far as Mr. Williams is familiar with what to anticipate and provide beneficial responses that would only further aid me in my study of pharmacy.