

Taylor Blackburn

Independent Study and Mentorship

Speice 2A

September 22, 2016

Great to be the First

Weekly Report 9/19 to 9/25

This week has been one of the most beneficial weeks as I have conducted one informational meeting and completed the final draft of my resume, as both are critical to the developing stages of my process in ISM. By contacting a professional in the retail pharmacy field, I was able to get expertise on the manner of my professionalism and getting a real-life account of the education and experience of a pharmacist. For future interviews, I now know to make the questions asked flow like a natural conversation and not force every question to be answered.

When cold calling to Target to ask for the pharmacy manager on staff, I believe I handled the introduction well, however, when confirming the date of the interview through email, I should have asked to confirm the timing instead of listing information, in order to ensure a response. Because of this, I was unsure of whether Dr. Edu understood the date of the interview, but went in at the date we discussed in professional dress and conducted the interview. The information that Dr. Edu shared with me provided a strong example of a person who went through pharmacy school and floated in the field of retail pharmacy before settling at the Target on Eldorado as her current job.

She advised me to look into becoming a pharmacy technician as it would be a good job for a student looking into a pharmacy career with only a high school diploma. This is something that I briefly looked into and that interests me for the future as I can get hands-on experience in a pharmaceutical environment, while still not committing to the career if it by chance looks less promising and less interesting as I continue my study. Furthermore, she said that not being a pharmacy tech as a part-time job in college was one experience she wish she pursued while studying for her undergraduate. Next time, for future interviews I hope to end with a tone that sets an optimism for the future as asking for permission for future questions that may pop up as I continue my informational research.

Another aspect of my week was completing the final draft of my resume, I believed I pulled off a look that was both professional and specific to the experience and skills that will pertain to the medical pathway. For example, with my involvement in HOSA and participation in medical competitions exemplifies my knowledge for medical terminology and the passion I possess for this field.

Some things that I hope to improve on in the next week is gaining the abilities to speak to professionals in a confident manner and getting the most of the information during these interviews. Some of my classmates recommended taking notes during the interview that way I retain the most crucial information and advice that is given. This is especially necessary as one of my most valued interviews is in the near future with Drug Crafters and I hope to view them as a potential mentor and make a lasting impression on them. I am excited by the potential of my research into the pathway of pharmacy and the outcome that it can affect onto these next few months.