

Taylor Blackburn

Independent Study and Mentorship

Speice 2A

September 12, 2016

The Experimental Period

Weekly Report 9/5 to 9/11

This week in ISM, I can see where all the pieces start falling together as the class was reintroduced to the ISM contract of the code of conduct and professionalism that I must uphold to maintain integrity throughout this year. Also, by creating a basic outline for my potential contacts of my mentorship and developing interview questions, I can imagine the greatness that will come out of this year. I did experience some challenges with finding contacts, however, but was able to successfully see which locations of pharmacies would be the most beneficial to me.

One topic that our class discussed this week that was very valuable was the correct dress and grooming that is appropriate for interviews and future mentor visits. Dressing business professional instead of business casual, implements the characteristics about myself to my potential mentor that I am polished and experienced even as a high school student. This high standard of dress allows students to convey the best parts about themselves and make them feel as if they are more powerful and knowledgeable. I understand that many adults don't receive this invaluable information about proper dress as first impressions are instant and long lasting and I feel lucky to be given this advice at such an early age in my professional world.

Also, the combined assignments of writing interview questions and finding contacts to add to its corresponding log has made me become more excited about discovering a mentor and

becoming more passionate about pharmacy. Also, when google searching many potential contacts, clinical pharmacy is a topic that has taken my interest. This type of pharmacy is a branch that deals with patient care that optimizes the use of medication and promotes health, wellness, and disease prevention. This appeals to me more than commercial pharmacy that deals with the administration of drugs in drugstores, like CVS or Walgreens. However, I wrote a couple of those commercial locations down in order to practice my cold calls and better prepare myself for potential mentors in hospitals and clinics. I believe that if I start out with where my end goal is I will experience a greater amount of failure than if I practiced in an area that is less attractive to my goals.

Some challenges that I endured this week was finding actual names as sources of contact, I was able to find the locations, but no specific pharmacists, By creating a LinkedIn account, I thought I could find more opportunities for locating people in my preferred field, but there was little luck. However, my current plan is to call the places that I wrote down, and ask to speak to a pharmacist in that field and potentially ask that person if they have any recommendations about other coworkers that would potentially be available to be contacted.

On other terms, I believe this week was successful in which I could place myself in an imagined interview and begin more research about terms that are vital to pharmacy in order to establish a more professional and knowledgeable presence in my interviews.