Lily Jones

Speice 3A

Independent Study and Mentorship

9, October 2018

A Positive Relationship with Optometry

Assessment 6- Interview

Name of Professional: Carlee Young

Title: Doctor of Optometry (O.D.)

Company: Frisco Eye Associates Kids

Date of Interview: October 9, 2018

Works Cited:

Jones, Lilian, and Carlee Young "A Positive Relationship with Optometry." 9 Oct. 2018.

Assessment:

This interview was the first interview conducted thus far throughout the ISM journey. Coming into this interview, the intention was to spend a short amount of time with Dr. Young, asking her general questions. These questions mainly consisted of what Dr. Young typically experiences on a typical day in the office, who she collaborates with, and multiple specific questions geared toward optometry. Considering this was the first interview, it was extremely successful. The interview itself did not consist of just back and forth questions and answers, but rather conversation in between. After the interview, Dr. Young offered to give a short tour of the office. It was amazing to see where everything takes place, especially in a pediatric optometrist office. Having the opportunity to look around the office was astonishing because I was able to experience the whole office, compared to what a regular patient would see.

Dr. Young is a very knowledgeable, kind, and personable woman. During the interview, Dr. Young noted how she graduated from Centennial High School, in Frisco, and actually went through a similar program to ISM, when she was my age. This information allowed us to start an initial connection because Dr. Young is familiar with the processes that form ISM. One of the questions that Dr. Young answered, regarded what the benefits of her job are on a daily basis. It was refreshing to see Dr. Young's passion toward her job. She said that the most treasured benefits of being a pediatric optometrist is helping children see for the first time. She highlighted how she admires the kids' first reactions, when they are able to see clearly for the first time. Being able to see her enthusiasm and love for her job truly excited me because Dr. Young is living out a value of mine: helping others. The fact that she is helping children and also working with their parents, gives her a variety of people to see daily, which is appealing to me.

During the interview, there were two pieces of information that shocked me the most. Dr. Young noted that she enjoys her job because there is always positivity. In optometry, optical issues are acknowledged and addressed, always ensuring that the patient's vision will be fixed, with a pair of glasses. However, in other medical professions, there is always some form of negativity when doctors must deliver bad news to their patients. Dr. Young highlighted that optometry is different and allows for a great environment to work in. Personally, her words stood out to me because I know that I want to be happy and feel fulfilled in whatever occupation I choose in the near future. Hearing Dr. Young, optometry is becoming more appealing than it already was. Secondly, another point Dr. Young made that was surprising was the belief that someone's eyes will get worse over time, with the dependence of glasses. This is actually a myth. I was astonished at this information because many people claim that they can "feel" their eyes getting weaker and can not go on without their glasses. However, Dr. Young said that this is a common misconception. The only reason one's prescription may change over time is due to age, not worsening eyesight. The intention for corrective lenses is that they help bring one's vision back to 20/20. These two points were interesting and appealing to me because I was able to learn something new out of this interview and apply new knowledge to how I could see myself in this profession in the future.

Overall, the first ISM interview with Dr. Young was successful and I am extremely appreciative for her understanding and time. After this interview, my understanding of optometry has grown a little more and I glad that I was able to speak with a professional with years of experience in this field. Moving forward, I must continue to stay consistent with follow-up calls and cold-calling multiple optometrists. The next goal is to schedule another interview with a professional, so another Research Assessment does not need to be conducted.

Interview Notes