

Lots of Work. Tired Eyes.

Weekly Report 10/29/18 to 11/4/18

This week, the second interview of the ISM journey was conducted. Dr. Lao, a female optometrist at Eyes In Sight, generously set aside some time for the interview. While interviewing Dr. Lao, it was evident that she has been in the field for quite some time, as we covered topics such as glaucoma, technology, diabetes, and how patients should properly order corrective lenses. Additionally, Dr. Lao was a mentor to a student at Liberty High School last year, through the ISM program. Not only was Dr. Lao very personable and kind, but also helpful by giving advice to me if I decide to pursue optometry in the future.

Coming into this week, the goal was to develop three specific S.M.A.R.T. goals and an Original Work idea. These two assignments were probably the most challenging tasks thus far in ISM because both required a level of creativity and accountability. By working on these two items ahead of time and throughout the week, the two pieces had a lot of thought and work put into them. By pushing through and attempting to come up with an original idea that would correlate with the research so far in ISM, my limits were tested. Coming up with a feasible idea from scratch is an unfamiliar skill and its difficult for me. Being able to take the time to figure out an idea and put all the logistics, details, and thoughts in writing was an accomplishment in itself.

Throughout the next few weeks, there will not be any assessments due. This time is intended to help with the Original Work production and interviews. This time will be well spent by ensuring that at least five interviews are conducted and at least an input of six hours is put into the Original Work. By using the time allotted for the Original Work, working on the project over the holiday breaks can be minimized as much as possible.

Going into next week, the goal is to write the Interview Assessment from this week's interview. If this is done, the paper will be done well before the due date, and the content will be fresh on my mind. Also, new contacts will need to be cold-called, in order to keep the rate of interviews constant. Lastly, with Research Presentations coming up this week, a slideshow and speech will need to be prepared. If a well put together presentation is made, the overall stress of this week will be reduced. The goal is to have a nice and clean presentation, in order to show my classmates the work that has gone into the research thus far in my optometry studies. It will be both interesting and exciting to see my peers give feedback on the first major presentation in ISM.