

Amy Zhang

January 31st, 2017

Independent Study and Mentorship

Evidence of Learning Assessment #2

Evidence of Learning Assessment #2

Subject: Final Product Brainstorming

Source(s):

Mentor Visit with Dr. Gary Gerlacher

Tuesday, January 24th, 2017

6:00 pm

Analysis:

This mentor visit was the week after Research Showcase at the Ford Center at the Star, so the topics of discussion between my mentor, Dr. Gary Gerlacher, and I had shifted from preparation for the showcase and finalizations on my original work to ideas for the next few months of mentorship. One of the biggest projects that ISM students take on through the course is called the final product. Essentially, the final product is a culmination of all the research and experiences that each ISM student has undergone throughout the mentorship and personal studies that year. The final product is the main focus of every ISM student for the second semester of the course.

With all this in mind, my latest mentor visit with Dr. Gerlacher was centered around ideas for my final product. I knew I wanted to hone in on the business aspect of pediatrics, like I had for my original work business plan, and I also wanted to create a product that could impact the community or those in need.

After we discussed different ideas that involve business and pediatrics to serve the community, Dr. Gerlacher came up with the concept of serving communities in rural Texas by using telemedicine to provide cost-effective and advantageous medical care for children in these areas. Dr. Gerlacher is familiar with the up-and-coming innovative telemedical processes, and he introduced me to the concept and the general purpose of the technology, so he will be able to explain to me the intricacies and the specific devices required to operate the systems effectively.

Something that really drew me to the idea was that this public policy proposal would combine both my interests in pediatrics and business, while implementing a tangible product that has the potential to serve and benefit the community. Ultimately, I hope to be able to pitch my idea to a government official who has a direct influence on the monetary budgeting and distribution of the fiscal policies in the state of Texas. I could identify the problem of a lack of pediatric care in rural Texas, present my public policy proposal, share the proposed budgeting and telemedicine devices required, and explain how this proposal could benefit thousands of citizens across the state of Texas.

A public policy proposal doesn't require any experimentation, observations, or surveys of any sort. In this way, my final product will not require any funding outside of materials for research found online and presentation of my final proposal in professional binding. This product will be a culmination of online research, direct experience, and advice from Dr. Gerlacher. At my next mentor visit, I will delve deeper into the specific

devices and technology involved with the practice of telemedicine. With a more thorough understanding of the different aspects of telemedicine, I will be able to write about the technology with greater awareness of its usefulness for this public policy proposal.