

Amy Zhang

April 11th, 2017

Independent Study and Mentorship

Evidence of Learning Assessment #7

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Subject: A Career Beyond ISM

Source(s):

Mentor Visit with Dr. Gerlacher

April 11th, 2017

3:00 pm

Analysis:

As I continue through the process to create my final product, I have begun to realize how interdisciplinary my public policy proposal is. The idea of instituting a system to provide low-cost and efficient healthcare for underserved residents in rural Texas requires knowledge from fields ranging from medicine, technology, and financial analysis. Dr. Gerlacher has shared much of his past experiences and expertise regarding these distinctive fields, and I have grown interested in the workings of different disciplines both related and drastically disparate from the field of pediatrics.

At the most recent mentor visit I had with Dr. Gerlacher, we discussed the topic of the career prospects that careers in each of these fields entailed. One of the fields that I am most drawn to out of all the disciplines that my proposal features is the field of business finance. With Dr. Gerlacher's past experiences in successfully managing the finances of his pediatric urgent care centers, he was able to shine light on the inner workings of this field within healthcare. I find myself in awe of all the minute details and things that need to be taken into consideration during the planning phases of opening a clinic, one of the tasks that I will have to undertake in creating this proposal.

My discussion with Dr. Gerlacher eventually shifted into the careers in finance that are possible outside the healthcare industry. He explained to me the high-paced nature of a career in investment banking, and the methodical career of a personal financial advisor. The potential of a degree in business, and finance, more specifically, could provide a wide variety of job opportunities both within the healthcare industry and beyond.

I am so grateful for the way ISM as a whole has broadened my knowledge of the discipline of pediatric healthcare, but I am just as thankful for the way the program has introduced me to other fields beyond medicine and fostered my interest in finance and the business of healthcare. Through the invaluable information I have learned from Dr. Gerlacher and his expertise in both pediatrics and business, I now have a much clearer idea of what I want to pursue in college and where I picture myself as a career professional in the future.