

Erin Brill

Mr. Speice

Independent Study and Mentorship 3B

03 November 2017

Interview Assessment #4

Name of Professional: Bob Blanford, Pharm. D.

Profession/Title: Director of Pharmacy Services

Business/Company Name: Baylor Scott and White Medical Center - Frisco

Date of Interview: 10/18/17

On October 18, 2017, I met with Bob Blanford at Baylor Scott and White Medical Center (Frisco location). Mr. Blanford is the Director of Pharmacy Services at this hospital. My topic is psychological research, which involves drug research, so I thought that talking to a professional involved in pharmacy would help me to gain more knowledge on the topic.

Upon arriving at the medical center, Mr. Blanford and the other staff were very welcoming. Mr. Blanford is familiar with the Independent Study and Mentorship program. Several years ago, his daughter was a member of the ISM program for two years. Mr. Blanford thinks very highly of this program and he was able to give me several tips and share some stories. He told me that ISM allowed his daughter to grow as a professional and that it benefitted her when she applied for college and jobs. He talked to me about the topics and projects studied by his daughter.

The interview went well, but unfortunately it was not as helpful to me as my previous interviews because the medical center specializes in surgery and labor and delivery services. Therefore, most of the medication at the facility is for pain rather than mental health conditions. As a result, Mr. Blanford was unable to provide much information relating to my topic of study.

Mr. Blanford was able to share some information regarding his education and his occupation as the director of pharmacy at a major medical center. While in school, Mr. Blanford started with a biology degree and later was accepted into pharmacy school, where he specialized in antibiotic absorption. Eventually he came to work at Baylor Scott and White Frisco, where he oversees deliveries and orders, meets with coworkers, and manages subordinates. He explained that there was a routine for his job. I would prefer a predictable job because I like to come prepared, knowing exactly what will be required of me each day. I enjoy having a routine.

Even though Mr. Blanford was not very familiar with my topic of study, he was able to share some useful information with me. Similar to the advice given to me by other professionals, Mr. Blanford told me to keep an open mind and not limit myself. By keeping my options open and exploring other branches of research or psychology, I can allow myself to experience a bit of everything and I can get a better idea of the type of job I like best. Mr. Blanford also recommended that I look into the Frisco ISD pharmacology program next year at the CTE center. By taking this course, I can earn my Sterile IV Certification, which will allow me to work at a hospital in college. Mr. Blanford was also able to discuss the qualities he felt were most important in someone looking to go into a career in pharmacy. He stated that attention to detail was imperative and that due to this, he believed women made better pharmacists. If I decide to

go into psychopharmacology, I will need to be very detail-oriented in order to make sure that the drugs are created properly.

Overall, this interview went well and the advice given to me will be useful in my independent study. Even though Mr. Blanford's knowledge of psychopharmacy was limited, I appreciated his friendly attitude and willingness to help me. In the future, I think I will interview with more psychologists or psychiatrists who will have more information for me in regards to my topic of study.