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Mr. Speice

Independent Study and Mentorship 3B

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**Keep Moving Forward**

Weekly Report 11/27/17 to 12/04/17

Things are moving quickly! Between extracurriculars and ISM, this week was a blur. Winter Break is approaching fast and there is much to be done.

This week, I had the wonderful opportunity to schedule and complete an interview with Dr. Christa McIntyre, a professor at the University of Texas at Dallas. In my opinion, this interview went really well. Dr. McIntyre was kind enough to show me around her lab and work area, where she was able to point out different aspects of some recent brain scans that were conducted on rats. I was able to talk to Dr. McIntyre about her work and research at the university. Professor McIntyre conducts research about the effects of stress and adrenaline of memory. It was really interesting to hear about her research. In my psychology class last year, I was fascinated by the study of memory and cognition. Furthermore, Dr. McIntyre was so passionate about her work. This was really inspiring to me. This interview was especially helpful to me because it was the first interview I have had with someone who is directly involved in psychological research.

On Friday, I had the opportunity to conduct a phone interview with Dr. Ackerman, another professor at the University of Texas at Dallas. Although this interview was brief, the information that Dr. Ackerman shared was very helpful. Dr. Ackerman was very amiable and was able to give me some advice regarding conducting polls and surveys. He also gave me some ideas as to which personality surveys would work best for my project. These ideas will be really useful to me because it will allow me to collect more accurate data. This interview was a positive experience, but due to the fact that the interview was conducted over a brief phone call, it was not as beneficial as some of the face-to-face interviews I have had so far. Nonetheless, the information and advice is much appreciated and I cannot wait to implement some of these new ideas into my original work.

Overall, I am happy with my progress this week. Things are busy, but I am finding ways to manage my time and assignments. Next week, I hope to secure a mentor and continue to do some research for my original work regarding accurate sample size and personality.

Accomplished this week:

- Scheduled and conducted an interview with Professor McIntyre of UTD
- Scheduled and completed an interview with Professor Ackerman of UTD
- Scheduled an interview with Professor Meyer of Collin College
- Began research for my original work
- Compiled a guest list for Research Showcase

Goals for next week:

- Secure a mentor
- Write interview assessments
- Continue original work research
- Begin sending out the original work survey
- Complete research presentation reflection