

Mentor Visit Assessment #2

Date: 7 February 2018

Type: Mentor Visit

In a previous primary assessment I wrote about the same mentor visit that I am writing about in this assessment. I spent around 6 hours at Baylor Scott and White in Dallas on Wednesday, February 7th, and gained so much new knowledge and information.

One of the main things that the CV Team at Baylor and I spoke about was my product proposal and possible project ideas. Since I had not gotten to meet with my mentor before the final product proposal rough draft was due, I drafted what I had in mind to be the start of the brainstorming we would do at a later time. In my first proposal, I wanted to construct the corporate foundation for my very own healthcare facility to be placed in a third world country. I knew that this project would be very broad and that we would have to narrow it down and make it more focused that I can maximize my opportunity to succeed.

Mrs. Traci Watson brainstormed with me first, helping me decide on a more focused idea. She recommended that, since her team's expertise is in the corporate cardiovascular sector, I try to do something with a cardiovascular specific facility rather than a full-fledged hospital. Regarding the implementation of the third world country, Mrs. Watson believed that India would be a good place to start my research. I would need to find out the possible patient population, the healthcare environment of different cities, how stable the infrastructure is, and how many hospitals are already there and what they provide. Additionally, Mrs. Watson recommended that I also find out what kind of insurance there is available for patients, does the country even provide insurance, and the percentage of people paying for healthcare related events out of pocket. Another fundamental aspect of my research would need to be where the need is. I would need to find a city with a high mortality rate in heart disease and where the greatest need for a heart center is.

When I met with the whole team near the end of my visit, we revised the plan even more. When I mentioned to Ms. Huff, my mentor, my idea to implement a third world country into my project, she came up with the idea that I design a project plan for a medical mission trip. A group of surgeons from Baylor Scott & White travel to Peru once a year to perform open heart surgeries in a city near Lima on people that normally are not able to access advanced medical care. While the trip to Peru has been successful in the past, it lacks a solid executive plan to help formulate a standard process for the visit. I loved this idea because it implemented many of my main initial thoughts for this project along with new concepts that I hadn't thought of before.

Additionally, the possibility of my project actually being used by professionals and maybe an entire medical corporation is extremely exciting. To start off, I was instructed to research existing mission trips and find out what it takes to plan a successful expedition. While researching, I might need to call some of the nonprofit organizations that already participate in these types of events. Maybe, I can even get some interviews with different professionals with expertise in charity trips like the one I am working on to get some primary sources. Although the research required for such a major project is daunting, I am very excited to have this opportunity and I cannot wait to see where my final product takes me.