

Professionalism 101

Weekly Report 9/11/17 to 9/17/17

Although the majority of my year so far in ISM has been based around my field of astrophysics, this week really branched out and helped me understand the basics of professionalism in general. For starters, the librarian at our school conducted a seminar regarding how to research and tips and tricks associated with it. This seminar really showed me how to distinguish between trustworthy sources, how to effectively use databases, and more. Furthermore, I learned how to make proper introductions when talking with professionals. In order to practice this skill, we were assigned to interact with teachers around the school that we had not met with before. Although quite a terrifying experience, it gave me tons of experience in a simulated professional environment. I learned how to maintain eye contact, give a firm handshake, and most of all, keep a smile.

Additionally, my teacher explained to us the elements of professional résumé. Generally speaking, the organization and content of the résumé really depend on the industry at hand. For me, my résumé will include experience and interests in the STEM than if I was studying a subject such as graphics design, which would be more geared towards artistic backgrounds. Most scientists generally go for a more traditional approach in developing their résumés because science is a very analytical subject, and in order to appeal to them the most, people write their résumé to be more oriented towards that method of thinking. However, I do believe that a creative twist towards anything is important when appealing towards someone. Thus, my résumé will be a combination of an analytical viewpoint and a creative element.

All in all, this week really enlightened my outlook and experience in becoming a professional. From an overview perspective, the skill of being a professional is essential in any given field. Although I had a bit of experience of these skills through applying for a job and being a part of the DECA program, I never received any set instruction on what to do. However, this week has especially taught me the necessary skills to be a professional. All I must do now is to continue to practice and sharpen what I have learned to become one.

Until next week,

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