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Speice

Independent Study and Mentorship

18 October 2018

Inside a Veterinary Practice

Assessment 7 - Interview

Name of Professional: Justin Burgin

Profession/Title: Veterinarian

Company: Frisco West Animal Medical Center

Date of Interview: 10/16/18

Works Cited:

Scoville, Brooke, and Justin Burgin. "Informational Interview." 16 Oct. 2018.

My first interview was conducted with Dr. Justin Burgin, a veterinarian at Frisco West Animal Medical Center. Gaining knowledge about common practices within a veterinary clinic and common cases and illnesses was the primary goal of this interview. Main practice veterinary clinics are a common place for many veterinary students either in college or graduated from college to start work. Therefore, learning about the inner workings of a veterinary clinic will be very beneficial information.

Dr. Burgin's description of the day to day activities in the veterinary clinic provided a perspective of how veterinary clinics function that had not been previously examined. Learning about common issues that animals come in with provided additional subjects to research later. Additionally, discussing the hardest parts of the job such as being presented with very little

information and being expected to provide a diagnosis. Dr. Burgin stated that the hardest part of this job is the fact that the animal can't talk to you about what's wrong with them. This information further support the fact that, in order to be a successful veterinarian, knowledge over symptoms and diagnoses is imperative.

Dr. Burgin provided incredibly helpful insight into some of the more complex questions that were presented over topics such as heartworm treatment and prevention and controversies over pediatric spays and neuters. Hearing Dr. Burgin's opinions over these issues and the reasoning he had to back them up was very beneficial information, especially with the upcoming original work proposal due. Discussing these topics with an experienced professional provided incredibly valuable information to potentially be utilized later when creating an original work or on mentor visits.

In addition to discussing common issues seen at a veterinary clinic, topics such as college and experience were discussed. Dr. Burgin provided many helpful tips on how to boost my resume to be the most impressive it can be. Additionally, when discussing colleges, Dr. Burgin talked about the importance of a wide variety of experience and education including working at a veterinary clinic, volunteer work, taking all required prerequisites and maintaining high grades in math and science related courses. Discussing this put a focus on the college plan for the next two years. Dr. Burgin stated the importance of having experience working in a veterinary clinic when applying for veterinary programs at colleges which are very competitive. With this information, steps can be taken in order to better prepare for furthering education in veterinary sciences in as many ways as possible.

This interview was very informative because not only did Dr. Burgin provide answers to all potential questions about veterinary sciences, but also because talking with a professional like Dr. Burgin served as a catalyst for questions I didn't know I had. This experience greatly broadened my view of veterinary science to encompass many additional viewpoints and reasonings. It also helped to prepare for what will be expected when applying to colleges and veterinary programs and determining what can be done now in order to aid in that. Overall, this interview was very informative and an eye-opening experience into the veterinary industry as a whole.