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ISM 3A

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Boldly I Approach

Weekly Report 2/6 - 2/12

In all honesty, this week was not my finest in my journey with the ISM program thus far. The week began with procrastination on my final product on Monday night, then led to a complete breakdown due to stress on Wednesday, and finally ended in exhaustion on Friday. Needless to say, I am very thankful that the week has ended, and I now move on to next week, learning from the mistakes that I previously made. My struggles began last weekend, when I went on a short weekend trip to Louisiana, in order to support my sister as she rode in a competitive horse show. Because I spent my weekend sitting outside of a barn without any way to access the internet with a computer, I was unable to complete any of my homework that required a google document. Therefore, I spent my ISM class time on Monday, as well as my Monday night, stressing about completing both my Weekly Report, as well as the major grade Product Proposal and Calendar. Although I did complete these assignments before the 11:55 deadline, I emailed my mentor and submitted my work close to 10:30, which was seen as both unprofessional and selfish. Despite the pride that I had, and still have, in my product proposal, I am not proud of my procrastination and the stress that it caused me, and I will be sure to avoid creating this type of situation for myself again. I have created a new plan in order to challenge

myself to avoid procrastination for the rest of the school year in ISM. I will attempt to have assignments either fully or mostly completed at least one to two days before the deadline for the rest of the year, so that I completely avoid repeating this type of situation.

Following my difficult Monday night, my Wednesday was not a 'banner' day either. My stress levels remained high, if not higher than they were on Monday evening. I had issues scheduling a mentor visit, and had finally found a time that worked for both my mentor and myself, and had planned to visit Purefoy Elementary on Wednesday morning at 9:15. However, I was surprised on Tuesday night when I found out that I would be missing a test on Wednesday in a class that I would be missing. Because I was not able to go on a mentor visit during the week prior to this, and because I had finally matched schedules with my mentor in order to complete a visit, I emailed my teacher asking for advice, in hopes that he would be understanding. This situation turned out to be for the best, although it caused me a great deal of stress. I was able to go on my mentor visit, and my teacher was very understanding, and willing to work with me, rescheduling my test so that I could make it up before school.

Thankfully, this Friday was a much better and more successful day, as I completed all of my work well before it was due, and was able to relax, rather than worry about how or when I would be able to turn in an assignment on time. Reflecting on this week, I find myself asking the question, 'If ISM has the ability to cause so much stress, why do I still choose to stick with it?' While the answer to this question may seem difficult to find for many, I find the answer quite simple. ISM is a program that provides experiences that most high school students would not be able to dream of. It has allowed me to grow professionally in my communication skills, time management (for the most part), and in many other areas, even down to dressing professionally.

It has provided an opportunity for me to directly observe and interact with students in the same setting that I hope to someday work in. Because of this, I am eternally grateful for the ISM program, and, despite the stress that it may bring at some points, I view my participation in the course as valuable, and 100% worth it.