## **Research Assessment #4**

**Date:** October 13, 2016

**Subject:** Business Symposium and UNT Trip

**MLA Citation:** N/A

## **Assessment:**

Through attending the ISM business symposium and going on the yearly trip to UNT, I have acquired a vast amount of knowledge on a variety of topics such as my future life, being interviewed, importance of networking, and more. I will use this information to dictate what choices I will make in the future in terms of college and work life. Most importantly, I gained new experiences that will prove to be very beneficial.

The ISM business symposium consisted of networking, hearing from a speaker and alumni, as well as being interviewed by professionals. Through networking, I gained many new contacts in terms of students and businesspeople. I can use the contacts to further my reach and access to many people and possibly conduct an informational interview with them as well. I was able to improve my speaking skills by talking with many people from differing jobs. I learned about many fields of work and the basic overview of each field. Later in the day, I heard from a speaker who reiterated the fact that every person is the "CEO of their own life." Also, there are two main influences in one's life which are other people and oneself. This helped me understand that I have full control over every choice I make in my life. The speaker also taught me that failure is not a negative thing; if I fail, I must learn from it. This is significant to me as I will be starting a business and not everything will go as planned. I must take what went wrong and see how I can do better for the future. From the alumni, I gained information on the main challenges of ISM such as the final product and scheduling interviews. I will need to stay ahead of the game and start planning for the future as soon as possible. Lastly, through being interviewed by professionals, I learned what it was like to be interviewed by another. I received some feedback from the interviewers about learning to say specific details when speaking and not being so broad.

The UNT trip was also a very beneficial experience as I was able to get a feel what college would be like. I took three classes at the field trip which were Communications in Business, Consumer Behavior, and Intermediate Accounting I. Through walking around the campus and taking these classes, I was able to see the freedom college gives a person. It was up to the students to get to class without parents constantly pressuring them. I believe that college will make me fully independent and help me balance my time between school and other activities. One of my most favorite classes was Consumer Behavior as it was all about how people think and how to gain people's interest. I enjoyed the topics covered in the class that day and would possibly like to take it in the future. It will help me as I will need to know what the customer is thinking in order to be able to sell my product.

In all, the business symposium and UNT trip have given me crucial experience in the real world and a head start on my future life.			