

Summer Internship Report 2017

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Evans Clinic
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(Natalie is on the right)

Provide an overview of the organization/research project and a summary of your responsibilities, tasks, and/or projects.

I, along with my fellow intern, would interview patients and write their history of present illnesses at the clinic before Dr.Evans would see the patient. The first two weeks, we did everything Dr.Evans would do, so we could see the work and family balance of being a physician. At least two days of every week, we would be on call for the pediatric section of the Jackson hospital. The last week of the internship, we had the opportunity to shadow other physicians such as Cardiothoracic surgeons. We also scribed for Dr.Evans at his clinic.

During your internship, what did you accomplish or how did you make a difference? In what ways did you grow in your professional and technical skills?

I learned a lot about medicine such as diagnosis, treatments, and drugs. I how to talk to a patient like a physician. For example, a patient had an appointment because he had lice, and the nurse backed up near the door not wanting to get close to the patient. However, as the physician, Dr.Evans examined the patient and made him feel like everything was okay. As the physician, one cannot make the patient feel like they are strange or frightening. One must be caring and considerate regardless of the medical condition.

Describe a problem that you helped to solve at your internship. What skills or knowledge from your education at Sewanee helped you address the problem?

In the middle of the internship, Dr. Evans's scribe was sick for a whole week. Therefore, my fellow intern and I had to step up and learn how to scribe on the spot for that whole week. We ended up scribing most of the internship. I believe at Sewanee we are taught to be optimistic about situations that do not go as planned, and we must find another way to fix it.

In what way were your teamwork skills strengthened?

Having another intern at this internship was truly amazing. Sarah and I had never met or seen each other before the first day of this internship. However, I am so blessed to have met an amazing girl, and I am so happy I worked with her for six weeks. Sarah and I would constantly help each other out with HPI's, medical questions, and so on. By working together to solve problems, we not only created a stronger relationship, but we also helped each other grow.

How did your internship affect your career plans?

By seeing a physician's work and family balance demands, I believe this internship made me realize I want to become a physician assistant. Also, since we worked with people of all age groups, I have decided I am definitely interested in going into pediatrics.

In what ways did your internship cause you to encounter people of different backgrounds from your own? What steps did you take to communicate effectively with such persons? What did you learn from such persons' perspectives?

Since this internship was in a rural part of Tennessee, I encountered many people that have different backgrounds than me. However, I communicated with them in a caring and comfortable tone, and I understood their struggles. I learned a lot about their perspectives, especially some of them that were not able to receive the amount of education I have been privileged to receive.

Words of thanks to your internship funding donors:

Thank you so much for letting me having this learning opportunity. I am so grateful to have learned so much about medicine. Doing this internship made me more eager about my future. Thank you so much for everything.