

The Fruits of Cold-Calling
Weekly Report 10/9/17 to 10/13/17

This past week in ISM, I began the process of actually cold-calling professionals to try and schedule an interview. The process is much more strenuous and frustrating than I thought, because out of about 15 people that I called, only one of them allowed me to speak directly to the targeted professional. I did imagine that it would be difficult, but not for this reason. Thinking that I would deal with a lot of rejection, I went into this process very determined face failure with resilience but I quickly realized that at least for my profession, the real challenge would be actually getting to speak one-on-one with the person that I wanted to speak with. I eventually achieved one interview, which will take place this Wednesday, the 18th. It was a very rewarding and encouraging experience to finally see the fruit of my work, and I am motivated to keep going until I have at least five interviews.

Also, this week has faced me with another challenge: beginning to brainstorm my Individual Work for the year. We were presented with an inspirational video from the band "OK Go," which encouraged me to think more creatively when brainstorming and not to "look" for an idea, but rather let the idea "find me." This advice will help me moving forward because I now understand that ideas do not need to come from formulaic or even remotely planned sources. They can sprout from any stroke of insight.

Going into this next week, I find the task of conducting my first professional interview somewhat daunting, but I still look forward to the progress that cold-calling will bring me if I stay determined. I am only just over 6 weeks into the course, but I now recognize that before I began, I did not even know that it was a possibility for me to communicate with professionals in my chosen field of study. I always saw that as "out of my realm." Because of my progress this week, I believe that I am currently in a good place regarding my studies of Occupational Therapy and I look forward to what this course will bring me.