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Mr. Speice

Independent Study and Mentorship- 3A

1 January 2017

#### Interview Assessment 4

Name of Professional: Dr. Matthias Peltz

Profession: Cardiothoracic Surgeon

Date of Interview: December 16, 2016 at 3:30pm

Assessment:

My interview with Dr. Matthias Peltz has truly opened my eyes to the career of cardiothoracic surgery, it made me excited for my future and educational path to become a surgeon. This interview began with a brief explanation of what I have done in Independent Study and Mentorship so far, and what I hope to do in Independent Study and Mentorship in the future.

I began the true interview process by asking why Dr. Peltz went into cardiothoracic surgery. Dr. Peltz spoke of his deep interest in transplant, critical care, and cancer; which all drove him to decide on becoming a cardiothoracic surgeon. He liked the challenge behind every surgery and patient and the gratifying feeling after each surgery. I wanted to learn more about the daily life of a cardiothoracic surgeon since it can be similar to the life of a pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon. He said he began with a team meeting before rounds, just like Dr. Huffman. Rounds was followed by meetings and the OR. He said he spent a lot of his time in transplant programs and research. I was also able to learn a lot about heart transplants through

this interview. Dr. Peltz takes a special interest in transplants, and has done a lot of research in regards to improving the technology of heart transplants.

After better understanding cardiothoracic surgery and Dr. Peltz, I followed with questions related specifically to my Independent Study and Mentorship journey. I first began by asking about postoperative care, since this regarded to my original work research. Dr. Peltz said postoperative care improvements come from less invasive procedures. He also spoke a lot about the importance of a strong care team, something that has been repeatedly reinforced through my research and past interviews. Less wires and chest tubes is also another form of improving post operative care. Physical therapy and removing a patient from it's bed can also dramatically quicken the recovery period after surgery. All of this information added on to my understanding of postoperative care and areas for improvement, allowed me to continue to brainstorm for alternative methods to postoperative care.

Finally Dr. Peltz followed by giving me advice on keeping an open mind to other careers, to continuously learn, and to follow my passion. From this interview I became more confident in speaking to surgeons and am continuously inspired to reach for this challenging career, This interview has also made me confident that the Independent Study and Mentorship program has been the right choice towards my career.

Notes:

What made you want to go into this field?

Transplant, cancer, critical care

What is your average day like?

Round team (6:30), ICU, rounds, decision, NP, PA, and OR

Rounds, consults, transplant programs, research

What is the best part of your job and why?

Seeing a patient get better, transplants, how behind science, challenging

Postoperative Care:

Less invasive, care team, medicines, ICU, wires, chest tubes, physical therapy, out of be

What are something that surprised you about this career and why?

Doing surgery, med school decision, knowledge found, gratification

Advice: open mind, learn, follow your passion, research, continuous training