

Mentor Assessment 1

Name of Mentor: Dr. John Mansour

Profession: Surgical Oncologist

Location: U.T.S.W. Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center

Date of Visit: September 20, 2016

Time: 1:00-1:30 p.m.

Assessment:

When I met with Dr. Mansour for the first time this year, I had a plan as to what I wanted to do for the upcoming year. I knew I wanted to discuss my plan for the year ahead, and I specifically wanted to discuss my plan for Final Product this year as well as my Original Work. I didn't like my Original Work last year, and I felt that my Final Product was really good, so I know I wanted to do something this year that I could be really proud of this year. Dr. Mansour had the idea to expand upon my Final Product from last year and continue my research with pancreatic cancer and pancreatectomies instead of just gastrectomies and and gastric cancer. Not only would this be beneficial for my own studies, but it would also serve to make my research more reliable for future purposes. Both Dr. Mansour and myself hope to get this research paper

published in a medical journal, and we have to take several steps to make sure that it is reliable and factual. We first have to ensure that my research covers as much data as possible. Part of this is addressed by the addition of new data, including pancreatic and gastric cancer, and the other part of that is covered by utilizing and analyzing the most patient data as possible. Dr. Mansour will also have to be listed as the lead author on the research paper, as it increases credibility. Although I would write most of the research paper and I would perform and did perform most of the calculations, listing Dr. Mansour's name ahead of my own would allow the paper to get published much more easily.

We also discussed the plan for the year in regards to mentor visits. I definitely want to get into the operating rooms more often this year, and Dr. Mansour was in agreement with me on this. We tried last year, although unfortunately I was only able to get into the Parkland operating rooms once last year because it was so difficult for Dr. Mansour to take off a whole day to allow me to get into the operating rooms. The issue with the operating rooms stems from the fact that Dr. Mansour's primary operating room is the operating theaters at U.T. Southwestern's William Clements University Hospital. U.T.S.W. is very selective about who they allow in their operating rooms to begin with, as they are a teaching hospital and have a lot of students in their hospital to begin with, and the fact that I'm not legal and under 18 makes it much more difficult to obtain a pass into the operating rooms. Hopefully, this year I will be able to make it into the operating rooms much more often as I feel that it is an integral part of my education in ISM and in the field of surgical oncology. I am planning on becoming a Unpaid Intern through U.T.S.W., which will hopefully allow me to get into the operating rooms much more often.