

Product Progress Assessment

For my Final Product for Independent Study and Mentorship, I have slightly shifted directions and am utilizing the most impactful opportunities that come along my path. Instead of adding onto the Opportunity Book and exploring other industries such as banking and apartments, I have decided to focus on my projects at work. Through currently working on the Development Team for Newcrest*Image*, a hospitality company, I am advancing my knowledge about the hospitality industry by sitting in on meetings, creating presentations for investors, studying markets, and more. Therefore, my calendar has essentially completely shifted as the focus of my Final Product has shifted. Occasionally, I will add to the Opportunity Book but the main focus is learning as much as possible through development.

The successes I am having are that I have skills working in Microsoft Office which are put to use in various projects assigned by my boss. Furthermore, the individuals at work take time to mentor me by showing me where I should focus next and outlining their recommendations for my future. The difficulties I am having are that I am new to all of this. I have never worked in development previous to this so there is a learning curve for all the tasks they are assigning me. Usually, most of my hospitality research is conducted at home so that I can be prepared to work the next day and know background information before going in.

In terms of the direction my product is going in, I am more than pleased. Through extensively diving into the details about hospitality and learning how to conduct certain things such as a Litmus Test, I am more knowledgeable as a whole. What is being learned now will forever be useful for me as I plan to continue in this industry for college.

For the remainder of my product, my goal is simply to continue to take on new challenges and complete different things that I previously did not know how to do. So far, I have learned how to complete a market study, what to look for when researching hotel companies, and many items on the Excel side of things such as a Supply and Demand model. For the rest of the year, I will continue to ask experts in the hospitality industry on what they believe would be most beneficial to myself in the long run.

The product has not been shaping up as I have expected. I used to believe that I would continue to add to the Opportunity Book; however, that has completely changed directions. Now it is geared towards my work in development and the opportunities for knowledge that brings. Throughout the development of my product, I have been learning the entire process behind deciding what to do with a plot of land. The options are essentially endless and one has to get creative on how to finance the project. I must always challenge myself to be different and that will yield the most beneficial results as my thoughts would be completely unique and potentially life-changing for the company.

Throughout the development of my product, I have been learning that I have true passion for development. Choices serve me well and I wish to continue making them for the rest of my life (in business). I do not enjoy being limited and need to have freedom in order to grow to my full potential. My mentor has been a vast help as he has expanded my knowledge in other industries and given me advice on how to conduct myself as a businessman. I will follow his

examples and leadership to reach success through incorporating many different perspectives. Mr. Meek is always ready to help in any way he can and he gives me direction when I am lost. Without his guidance, I would not be in the position I am in today. The future is calling and I am ready to pick up the phone.