

Interview Assessment #2

Name of Professional: JoAnn Livingston

Profession/Title: Freelance Writer

Business/Company name: N/A

Date of Interview: September 16, 2017

On Saturday, September 16, 2017, I conducted my second interview with Ms. JoAnn Livingston, who is a freelance writer who is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at University of North Texas. She was a journalist at a large variety of newspaper companies and allowed me to look more into the research side of creative writing. In some senses, the information on communication that I gathered from my first interview with Mrs. Carol Nuckols because they both emphasized the vitality of communication in the writing, specifically in the journalism field. Ms. Livingston stated that the most important part of her job was writing stories that changed people's lives. Her story helped me establish the foundation in my mind that writing can be very impactful and alter the way people look at the world. Due to the extent that I want to change the common view on pediatrics, looking into research writing and modeling my style after the format of journalism is the best way to reach the most people. Her experience with changing the lives of people in need of support inspired me even more to pursue my writing in the direction of pediatrics.

One of the stories she told me was about a woman who was diagnosed with cancer and was unable to get food stamps, despite her lack of a job and the overwhelming chemotherapy treatment that she was enduring. Ms. Livingston's research piece on how the food stamp providers are not helping as many people as possible helped this woman get food stamps by forcing the industry to get in line with the purpose of their business; helping people in need. The impact of Ms. Livingston's story resonated with me and motivated me to keep going after the goal of clarifying the meaning and effects that pediatrics has on patients. Looking at how my journey will continue in the Independent Study and Mentorship program, I hope that this interview will provide some clarity on how much writing can change the world. In this interview, I learned that the way she wrote her article forced the food stamp industry to own up to their mistakes; her communication made the pieces powerful. The power Ms. Livingston achieved in her writing is what I hope to achieve through my writing.

The most exciting part of my interview was Ms. Livingston telling me about an incredible writing program she helped fund and lead. Its purpose was to increase the number of research writers in today's generation by allowing for them to communicate with current day authors who can provide proper guidance to young apprentices. She exposed me to a new opportunity to learn about the writing field and showed me that I can continue my research after the Independent Study and Mentorship as well as beginning by writing career as early as 16. Throughout the interview, I felt connected to

Ms. Livingston and was engaged the whole time. Through the process of going to both the interviews with Mrs. Carol Nuckols and Ms. Livingston have given me a solid foundation in communication and when looking for my mentor, I hope they help me grow that foundation.