

Preparation for Outreach

Ryan Blackburn | *Weekly Report 9/4 - 9/10*

The most important aspect of presenting yourself in a professional setting is the ability to prepare oneself well in advance. I have experienced this epiphany this week as I worked to collect my materials for my future formal encounters with professionals in the Dallas area. Not only that, but through such preparation for these professional meetings I have also realized the importance of time management and efficiency in allocation of resources towards completing an overarching goal.

Preparation is key to not only presenting oneself in an acceptable manner, but also to become a respected candidate for political office. This week, I have realized the importance of setting goals in advance and working efficiently to complete them, as though it may seem challenging for youth to accomplish this, such is required to be in good standing with your constituents when campaigning for office. In an attempt to practice and execute this prior preparation, I worked towards compiling a contact list of local elected officials or experts on civic responsibility to aid in the scheduling of potential interviews and understanding of how various fields of study relate to public policy.

Along with early gathering of materials so to promote a more formal disposition, I have also set out to exude a greater sense of mastery in time management and resource efficiency. In accomplishing certain tasks this week, I have practiced being able to budget my time efficiently to the most significant assignments, taking into account deadlines and estimated time spent on each, among other factors. Hopefully, from this experiment I can grow in my professionalism in understanding the attributes attached to representatives.