

Compiling an Identity

Ryan Blackburn | *Weekly Report 9/18 - 9/24*

The fruitful reward of effective preparation and planning is only attained through diligence and envisionment. Throughout this week in Independent Study and Mentorship, I have looked to gain a greater professional standing through development of networking skills and formal sources of information. In an attempt to fulfill this aspiration, I have worked towards furthering my presence on professional sources, such as through LinkedIn and a personal website, and composing résumé drafts to offer to professionals.

In advancing my presence on various professional platforms, I have learned of the importance of formal disposition and filtering out information only pertinent to your aspirations. As I compiled all of my past achievements and leadership positions, it became increasingly clear that some activities were not pertinent in my search to expand understanding of civic duty. Thus, in filtering out only necessary information, I now can display the significance of critically analyzing past experiences so to grow in efficiency.

While not only realizing the importance of the action of including only pertinent information in a formal setting, I also have worked towards implementing this action into practice. After doing so, I feel that my professional standing and materials are now more cohesive and appealing than before, as they specifically target key characteristics or experience that satisfy potential mentors. Truly, the creation of these materials have aided me in establishing experience in compiling a more formal disposition and reaching out to local mentors. As the next week progresses, I hope to utilize these resources as I

branch out to passionate civil servants to understand more of the ideology governing our society.