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My 2009 summer internship with the Cleveland Clinic was enlightening and challenging, and it was a unique experience nearly impossible to find elsewhere. The two months I spent working with interns and doctors were two months spent with some of the most intelligent people I have ever met. I was astounded at the wealth of knowledge the mentors and speakers held and their ability to convey this information to our group. A great amount of time at the Clinic was devoted to lectures given by physicians and scientists at the top of their profession, who were brilliant, to say the least. The information they shared was interesting, rigorous, and sometimes difficult, but it allowed us to expand our learning capabilities, and bestowed upon us an education I would expect in medical school. The program made certain to bring in the best of the best, and we interns were fortunate to have the opportunity to hear from, meet, and develop contact with these experts.

The writing experience was one I will never forget. I could only imagine what the publication process would entail, but until I actually went through the process, I never fathomed all its intricacies. First I had to choose a topic on which I wanted to be an expert, and this was hard enough, as I had no prior reproductive medicine experience. However, the staff were amazing at mentoring us and providing any help and advice. We were in constant contact with our mentors and co-authors, whether we were involved in group meetings, instant messaging, or conference calls. I was extremely impressed with the effort they put forth to communicate and make our articles a success. Much time was spent finding and picking apart scientific articles, and often I would spend a full day at the Clinic and come home to read more articles late into the night. Though I did not sleep as much as I would have liked, this hard work eventually paid off. The final day of presentations made manifest the dedication that the interns had made toward their various subjects. I was impressed with and proud of everyone for their command over the studied topics.

Though the learning and writing experience alone made this internship stand out, what really awed me were the attitude, care, and commitment of the doctors. I could not have asked for kinder or more intelligent professionals to work with. The passion they held for their work was amazing, and it set a standard that I hope to maintain for whatever work I pursue in the future. I became close with most of the interns as well, and I enjoyed getting to know their personalities. These people helped me get through the day, and I was honored to work side-by-side with them. All in all, this was a wonderful experience that allowed me to explore my limits and stretch my capacities.



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