

Pre-med Shadowing During January 2014



While most Rollins students were enjoying their final days of winter break, seven devoted Pre-Med students spent the week at Florida Hospital and Nemours Children's Hospital as part of the independent study course. The students in the observership program had the opportunity to shadow physicians and residents, as well as participate in grand rounds, observe surgeries, and witness discussions of patient symptomatology.

On January 30, 2014, the students Jayce Breig, Cristina Figueroa, Alexandria Mickler, Ibrahim Musri, Catherine Psarakis, Megan Single, and Jamie Wadovick attended a debriefing session with Dr. James Zimmerman, the new Faculty Advisor for the Health Professions Advising Program, and Lisa Johnson, Director of Academic Internships. The students reflected on their shadowing experience and shared how the experience affected their future career goals. More importantly, these students realized how much effort it took to become medical professionals.

"I learned a lot about how surgeons went about their jobs day to day and about the effort and commitment it required to be a physician." Said Ibrahim Musri (Class of 2015) who observed at General Surgery Department, Florida Hospital. "It definitely changed the way I viewed a physician's work and how they dedicated their lives to help people who depended on their services."

Catherine Psarakis (Class of 2014) commented on the positive atmosphere at Emergency Medicine, Florida Hospital, "The shadowing experience exposed me to the clinical environment and the way that the doctors, nurses, security, and other personnel collaborated with efficiency and a positive attitude to provide optimal patient care."

"I enjoyed my time in hematology/oncology the most because I felt drawn to that field, and seeing it first-hand solidified my feelings." Megan Single (Class of 2016) shared her experience at Nemours Children's Hospital. "The facilities there [Nemours] were phenomenal, and the coordinator was really willing to call around and have us observe in different departments."

Based on the success of the Winter Intersession Observership Program, Rollins will partner again with Florida Hospital during the Spring Break; students can shadow at Radiology Department from March 3 – 7. Applications for Spring Break is currently available on the Blackboard site for the Health Professions Advising Program. Students may also contact the Office of Academic Internships for more information relating to Pre-Med observerships at www.rollins.edu/academic-internships.

Pre-med Shadowing during Spring Break 2014



While most Rollins students were relaxing this Spring Break, two devoted pre-med students spent five days observing physicians and resident at Florida Hospital's Radiology Department. Annamarie Bryant (class of 2016) and Cardiff Howell (class of 2015) were chosen from a competitive applicant pool to participate in Rollins Pre-Med Shadowing Program offered from March 3-7, 2014.

Throughout the shadowing experience, the students had the opportunity to observe various radiology techniques, as well as attend lectures and interact with physicians and residents. Annamarie and Cardiff were extremely impressed by state of the art facilities and the amount of continuous education offered by the radiologist. They both reflected on how this shadowing experiences has positively impacted their career plans.

"I was most surprised by how much I really liked radiology. Previously, I hadn't much interest in the field but now I am strongly considering it as a career option," said Annamarie Bryant (Class of 2016).

Cardiff Howell (Class of 2015) commented on his experience, "Even after medical school, there is still intense studying that has to be done to be board certified in a specialty." He also enjoyed the atmosphere in the Radiology Department, which was totally different from his previous Emergency Medicine shadowing experience. Cardiff added that "when I asking a resident why he chose radiology, the resident stated that he must know all the other medical specialties in order to understand and practice radiology. In other words, he must know the entire body to be effective at his job."

Rollins will continue to partner with Florida Hospital in the next academic year in providing observership opportunities for pre-med students. Students may also contact the Office of Academic Internships for more information relating to pre-med observerships at www.rollins.edu/academic-internships.