

Feedback from Students – Career Advising Luncheon Capstone 2018

Student comments/suggestions:

- 1) VSAS – very complex system. Can SOM Career office do some primers on navigating VSAS for all students?
- 2) For couples or “at risk” students, need full 3 months for OB/GYN interviewing – implications on time off, what electives you might still be able to do, keeping financial aid if taking full 3 months off
- 3) Try to do October interviews as Nov/Dec dates fill up very fast and Oct. travel is easier with better weather
- 4) Create a separate ERAS only gmail account
- 5) Designate a family member to respond to your emails so if you are busy in clerkship, you won’t miss opportunity to say yes and secure an interview date
- 6) Avoid any surgical rotations in Sept/Oct.
- 7) Do a spreadsheet on ideal interview schedule, groups of interviews based on city
- 8) Take your notes on the program during the day on breaks or right after interview is over. – some folks took our “on the Trails” document and added notes to that
- 9) No need for an extra Folio – every program gives you a folder.
- 10) No need to carry your CV or PS (despite recommendations to do this)
- 11) Verbally practice answers to the behavioral interview questions that were supplied to you by Mendiratta
- 12) Plan for “What else can we tell you about our program?”
- 13) Prepare a few “patient stories” to illustrate concepts: compassion, difficult situation, sad/bad outcome, etc.
- 14) For the question, “Why do you want to come to this program” – have specific answers rehearsed for each program
- 15) Interview offers trickle in so be mentally prepared and don’t freak out – good time to be concerned is by 2nd week of OCT.
- 16) For 3rd year students, start really researching residency programs in January of 3rd year so you are ready to apply for visiting sub-I spots in spring.
- 17) ERAS – has a build in spread sheet with certain categories for your use – called PRISM
- 18) Contact former UW students who are now residents at programs you apply to, to get info. In addition those residents may talk to PD about offering you an interview spot.
- 19) Get TSA precheck
- 20) Hand held steamer to “iron” your suit – cheap and easy to use.
- 21) Try to make it to the dinner even the night before – very helpful for you to assess the residents and also quite informative.

Overall – very good session with great suggestions. Would ideally like to have > 1 hour for this.

Issues:

Many students did not RSVP as it was not on Capstone website? Students did not get/read separate email on this.

WISH worked out well as we were already there for skills session and lectures