

## WEEK SIX

On Tuesday, we met with Irene Bueno at Pizzeria Uno at the Union Station to catch up. We talked about how the internship is going and how the following week's schedule is going to look like since the HEP/CAMP directors will be arriving.



After the lunch meeting with Irene, I went back to the office to check in with my supervisor, and then ran to Rayburn HOB to attend the Lure of Europa Event! I've been waiting for this moment ever since Gabriel Rojas informed me about it. This event was held by The Planetary Society to increase awareness of Europa, the sixth closest moon of the planet Jupiter. Europa is an icy world made out of silicate rock in contact with oceanic water. The Planetary Society's CEO, Bill Nye, was there as well as the panel of speakers there to discuss the lure of Europa. This panel of speakers included a bipartisan mix of House members, the current Chairman of the House Science Committee, the Chief

Scientist of NASA, and one of the top Europa scientists in the country. The Planetary Society decided that it was time to raise awareness in Congress about the exciting possibilities of exploring this watery moon. I was so excited to be a part of this successful event! I hope this mission becomes a reality!

When I arrived to the office on Wednesday, I had a project set up by a staffer and ready for me; the project consisted of writing letters and getting familiar with the office language. After I completed this project, later that day, I received another one from a

different staffer; the project was to complete four letter draft responses and summarize two bills. It was an exciting day at the office today. I enjoyed having back-to-back projects and staying busy.



---

Today was a frantic Friday for programing!

Friday's programming was a little different than usual; we started by visiting CQ Roll Call. CQ Roll Call is a privately owned publishing company that offers advocacy resources to take action. They are the source that



provides timely news, objective facts and analysis, and coverage of elections and the politics of legislation.

The conference room at CQ Roll Call was packed!

After CQ Roll Call, we left to the University of Phoenix. The two speakers were from National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA). I learned that NHLA calls for unity among Latinos around the country to provide the Hispanic community with greater visibility and a clearer, stronger influence in our country's affairs. NHLA brings Hispanic leaders together to establish policy priorities that address, and raise public awareness of the major issues affect the Latino community and the nation as a whole. Following the NHLA discussion, we had a panel meeting with five representatives from five congressional offices for a panel meeting. They emphasized both national and international issues that have a significant impact on the Hispanic community in the Untied States. We talked about issues such as the border crisis and how their office is handling this issue. It was interesting hearing the staffers deliberate on the issue and learn how each office has a different take on the situation.

After the Congressional



Hispanic Conference Panel, we took the Metro to arrive at the Center for American Progress (CAP) Building. The Center for American Progress is a nonpartisan educational institute committed to improving the lives of Americans through progressive ideas and action. We met with staffers from CAP. They talked about themselves and how they got to CAP. Some talked about what they do at CAP. Specific people work on developing new policy ideas and others analyze the policy. CAP challenges the media to cover the issues that truly matter, to form a nationwide discussion. The policy issues vary from LGBTQ to immigration. We ended programming at CAP.

My fellow CAMP interns had the opportunity to go to NYC for Friday programming! I was excited for them because it was their first time. I decided to stay behind as I have been to NYC, and I did not want to miss CHCI Friday Programming.

Just like CHCI interns, we must complete community service hours – some individual hours and at least three hours with a group. All of my hours were scheduled for this weekend.

I started off my Saturday by volunteering at Voto Latino as part of my group hours. We met with Danny Navarro who was coordinating the CHCI Voto Registration Workshop. At this workshop, we discussed the background of Voto Latino, reviewed sample tweets, sample Facebook posts, and then we had a breakout session. This is when we broke up into groups and created our own social media content. I worked alongside other interns to create an eye-catching social media content. I was in charge of doing the statistical research; the Pew Hispanic Center webpage was very helpful. After we finished creating the media content, we gathered around to debrief and take a group picture. After volunteering, the CHCI interns and I went to this restaurant called Madhatter for brunch! The food was delicious, and it was a great bonding time with the CHCI interns!

On Sunday I woke up early to do my individual hours of community service, but I went with eleven other CHCI interns. We volunteered at Casa Ruby, a volunteer run organization that works with under-served communities including new refugees in the DC metropolitan area and provides food, mental health, and other social health services to Latinos, African Americans and other communities. I assisted in cleaning the basement by dusting off desks, book counters, organizing material, washing dishes, sorting clothes and mopped the floor. Once we were done with the basement, we relocated to



the third floor were I washed the dishes and cleaned the counter. Ruby the owner came by the office, she spoke to us about her experience and her work. Before we left we took a group picture with her. After volunteering, we all went to eat brunch and celebrate Eduardo's, a CHCI intern, birthday at IHOP!

In the evening, I met up with Kimberly Luna; she is a SAF intern for the summer, and she was, also a former HEP/CAMP intern. Kimberly was visiting D.C. so we did some catching up and then took a picture in front of the White House.

