

Anabella – Week #8

This week I wrapped up projects from last week and focused on finishing up my responsibilities. My worksite supervisor, had me look over my goals and reflect on whether I achieved them or not. They included asking for work, asking questions, asking for feedback, networking with other interns, and having several different informational interviews. I attended a luncheon with Maria Echaveste, the former Deputy Chief of staff of President Clinton and cofounder of NVG,LLC. Maria shared her migrant background and her experience of being the first from her family to go to college, I was really touched because I felt like she was someone who I can relate to. I asked her how she dealt with the culture shock of being different from her classmates and she shared with me instances where people tried to put her in a box but she didn't allow that because she knew her worth. I also attended the closing ceremony for NMSHSA at Microsoft Innovation & Policy Center and I was able to witness the accomplishments of my fellow interns. One of my goals was to have an informational interview with someone from the Mexican Embassy so I asked around and one of the staff members connected me with Arlene Alvarez. Arlene works for the Cultural Institute of Mexico, a branch from the Embassy and she was willing to have coffee with me and answer questions. Arlene also encouraged me to look into internships with the Department of State and offered to connect me with someone who could give me more insight on what it's like to work for the Embassy. I met with different staffers all who offered to help me and asked me to keep them updated throughout the school year. Well here it comes, the inevitable goodbye. Four months ago, I never thought my summer would be spent the way it did. I had the most beautiful and amazing experience. For the first few weeks, I felt homesick and I was constantly missing my family but as time progressed, I adapted to this place and called it my home. I want to thank my Director, Gianluigi Benvenuto who worked extensively to get me funded and made sure I was well taken care of. To my sisters who are my heroes for the never ending pep talks and encouragement, my friends from the Career Center back home who always believed in my abilities and served as my support system, thank you. To Patrick who was my go to person and who is constantly checking up on us to see how we're doing. Thank you to the Association for the opportunity to be a part of this cohort.





