

## **Experience # 6    University of Iowa Medical School Interview 2003**

**Name:**

**Itinerary:**

Short orientation with assistant dean of student affairs and assistant director of Admissions. We introduced ourselves and talked about the admissions process. Director of financial aid talked to us about grants, loans, and amount of money that will be available. We had lunch with current students and a tour then waited for our interview time.

**Interviewers:**

Two interviewers that were physicians at the hospital. During the structured part they would nod, but no facial expressions. After the structure part they were open and the entire atmosphere was more relaxed. We engaged in more conversation and I felt during this time they could get a sense of my personality.

**Questions:**

The typical five that are normally asked at Iowa, but they asked about a current medical situation that concerns society during the structured part rather than how I deal with stress. During the unstructure part they asked Where I thought I would be in 15 years, Why I chose Iowa, Other schools I applied to, If I could do anything for one day for myself what would it be and why.

**Prepare:**

I wore a black pant suit with conservative shoes and jewelry. Bad ideas that I saw other girls/guys wearing- boots instead of dress shoes, large jewelry, turtle neck instead of blouse, jackets that don't match pants, and short skirts!!

**Impression:**

I felt so exhausted after my interview because I had placed 100% of my energy into the interview and preparing for it. This is how you should feel. I don't think I could have presented myself any better. I know they knew my qualifications as well as my personality, which is sooo important.

**Changes:**

I asked a question that would make the interviewers think-I asked what they thought about advertising prescription drugs b/c at my clinic internship many people would come

in asking for certain drugs. They loved it! I highly recommend asking a question that will make them think (got this idea from someone who is now attending Iowa) I didn't find the building the night before and I wish I would have because it would have made me less nervous the day of my interview.

**Tips:**

Drink water during the day otherwise when you're interviewing you could have a really dry mouth. Wear an outfit that makes you feel good and comfortable--it's all about self-confidence. Bring along your research abstract or paper--but ask them if it is appropriate to let them read it. I offered this and they were super impressed. Prepare- I suggest doing a mock interview with Dr. Langan(business) because he worked HR for the Tribune. He is super helpful and extremely nice.

**Additional Comments:**

Relax. You made it this far and they must like you! It's an honor to have an interview and remember to write thank-you notes to the interviewers within 24-48 hours.