

## 9/10/08 General Meeting Notes

**Ben** – Last week we had ALPS (great experience), Trick or treat for cans and Science Olympiad

**Joe** – Anyone involved in a Coop/research please email him to get your profile on our homepage

**Emily** – Tomorrow night, advising session after the ECS session

### **Dr. Anderson** –

- His story of getting into medicine: struggled first year of medical school, realized he wanted to be a surgeon, chose ear/nose/throat (difficult, intricate anatomy), had a clinic with three other guys, UW bought clinic, now a clinical professor, now he works with Promega too (see products all over the world)
- Admissions committee every Tuesday evening
- Need to know why you want to be a doctor before you are a medical student
- Medicine is unique – committing a decade of life to getting trained, not working until mid-thirties
- 80 hour work week rule, follow closely here
- Important to shadow physicians, have conversations
- Try to volunteering in a medical environment
- Need to take time off to do stuff you want to do before you enter the med school “tunnel”
- How to get into medical school: like a political campaign
  - o Grades: 3.7 average, look at where they go to school
  - o MCAT: important to do well, 30 is a good score; they look at the best score in each section; really important from a small school
  - o Soft spots in BME application: Volunteer service – important to have significant medical exposure, shows service oriented
  - o Recommendations: 3,4,5 Not good from minister or doctor neighbor (negative); someone who knows well that can make judgments of character; can have one letter from a non-academic source
    - Even mention at the beginning of the semester; talk to people to see if they will write a good one “Are you comfortable writing me a letter of recommendation”
- Research: can’t do no volunteer and no research; if sacrifice something this is an area; important to get a letter from the lab you were working in
- Essay: Engineers aren’t the greatest writers – make sure to have someone look it over; no spelling errors, punctuation correct
  - o Put in it – why do you want to be a doctor; write from the heart; speak about a personal experience
- Language: Great to be able to speak spanish
- What if don’t get it? Go in and ask why; Lucy Wall takes notes to be able to council students on how they can improve
- UW has high standards; MCOW has slightly lower standards

- DO schools another options: don't be reluctant to apply to these schools