Brandon Yan Wall Street Trek Alumni Interview

For the alumni interview report, I interviewed Anthony D’Orazio who is currently a senior at Case Western and an incoming investment banking analyst for William Blair. Through my discussion with him, I learned more about his career path and how the Wall Street Trek helped him in terms of internships and professional development.

Before the trek, Anthony was considering a career in consulting, investment banking, and strategic finance roles. The trek altered his original path and tailored his interests toward investment banking. Through the help of the trek, Anthony was able to land an internship with The Riverside Company which allowed him to strengthen his resume for junior summer internships. Because of his invaluable experience interning in private equity with Riverside, Anthony would land interviews with several investment banks such as Wells Fargo, Morgan Stanley, KeyBanc, and William Blair. Overall, Anthony said the trek enabled him to see different careers in finance, accounting, consulting, and entrepreneurship which allowed him to choose the path of investment banking.

Anthony provided lots of invaluable advice with regards to networking and preparing for interviews. He emphasized the importance of networking as the best way to create opportunities in the industry of finance. He kept an excel sheet that contained countless rows of information of people he spoke with. He aimed to speak to five new people every week to learn about the industry and increase his chances of interviewing. Before his networking calls, he made sure to look at the world news, research the company they worked for, and view the person’s Linkedin profile. Additionally, he always looked to get one thing out of each call. In preparation for the interviews, he spent lots of time reading investment banking guides, practicing his pitch, recording himself answering common interview questions, and speaking to professionals for advice. Anthony stressed that there was no true substitute for networking.

The biggest takeaway from my conversation with Anthony was the importance of preparation whether that be for networking or interviewing. It is crucial to allocate enough time and effort into studying the technical material and building relationships if an individual wants to break into the industry. From this conversation, I have been inspired to continue to reach out to individuals within the world of finance while making sure to not stress too much over the process. Overall, my conversation with Anthony confirmed my strong interest in the Trek and I look forward to continuing to develop myself professionally through this program.