

Interview Assessment #8

Name of Professional: Tracy Gamble

Profession: Political Marketing and Campaign Organizer

Date of Interview: 2/1/2022

Assessment:

For this week's assessment, I decided to have a quick meeting with one of my past ISM connections, Tracy Gamble. I had had a meeting with Tracy earlier during the first semester to discuss my plans in ISM for this year but at this meeting, we decided to talk about the current situation going on with the Frisco city council elections occurring. We also discussed how my expectations vs the reality of what I did my first semester in ISM.

To start out the meeting we talked extensively about the city council election currently going on. The special election is for city council place five. Place five is currently held by Dan Stricklin, but he recently resigned from the position with the intention to run for a spot on the Denton County Commissioners Court. I had met Mr. Stricklin while working on the Rene Archambault re-election campaign last summer. The candidates who are up for the spot are Sai Krishna, Laura Rummel, and Tracy Reveal Shipman.

To go through the candidates running; firstly Sai Krishna ran for a city council seat last summer but lost. He was not a bad candidate but a lot of his campaign promises were things that were already in place in the city. An example of this is how when he first ran he promised to implement a cultural event or celebration that focuses on Indian traditions, but the City of Frisco already has several different events that focus on traditional Indian holidays and celebrations. The city also works closely with local community leaders within that demographic to include them in city celebrations and events, like through the City of Frisco's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. So having that discrepancy in his campaign promises showed that he didn't really pay much attention to or research much information on the position he was actually running for. The second candidate for place five is Laura Rummel. I've met Mrs. Rummel before, also while working on Mrs. Archambault's campaign and I agree with a lot of her stances on the city and her future plans but her plans for how to achieve those goals don't seem entirely fleshed out or realistic. Lastly, the other candidate who is running for the council spot is Tracy Reveal Shipman. I've never met Mrs. Shipman personally but many of the people I work with seem to have her as their front runner in the five elections. Overall I think this is an interesting situation for a special election since the current spot holder has resigned but I think truthfully it's a race between Laura Rummel and Tracy Reveal Shipman. I need to do more research into what each candidate's positions actually are but this could be a pretty interesting race to watch out for and has a good chance at going to a runoff.

Lastly in this meeting, Tracy and I talked about how my expectations and realities in ISM have differed over the last few months. Overall my intentions for this year are

entirely different from what I had planned. Starting with my study topic for this semester where I had planned to go into more of a social science and statistics-heavy topic but then I ended up doing city planning and sustainable development. Next, the biggest difference was my original work idea which was going to be a deep dive into different cultural groups and how they vote in local and state elections, but then I essentially designed and remodeled an entire city. Lastly, I also changed who I thought my mentor would be for this year. I had originally thought to work with Mr. Lee again but I think I do not have a good shot at working with Dr. Jason Cooley who is the chief of innovations for the Frisco City manager's office.