

ASRT SDLP  
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It was an honor to represent the state of South Dakota as a student intern. This was such a wonderful experience. I gained leadership, knowledge, and motivation to be the best that I can be in this profession. I did not know how much time and commitment was put into this society. It makes me appreciate the work of others so much more. The first night we arrived in Orlando for orientation lit a fire underneath me. The word of the night was "opportunity." They emphasized how many opportunities we will gain from this experience. They were right. I was paired up with Cindy Daniels of North Dakota as my mentor. I feel she will be a forever mentor for me. I am so glad I got the chance to put faces names because I will now have more people for networking options. I also would like to try to publish my research paper that I will be starting in the fall.

It is amazing to see how professional this group is. Even though this society is very professional, everyone still knows how to have a good time. This experience provided me with the skills and motivation to become involved even after this internship. It has made me realize that there's so much more than just getting my degree and starting my career. I love being involved and I can't wait to make a difference in this profession. After this internship, I would like to run for the SDSRT board. I feel this would be a great way to start off my career and involvement. I have a lot of great ideas and I also love working with others. As for now, I am going to apply for a few different volunteer committees including, writing for ASRT, and the SLDP Alumni program. I am excited for these new experiences to come.

Some advice for the new interns would be to keep an open mind. A lot of information is thrown at you but just take it all in and process it later. I would also take some notes, such as people's names you want to remember or certain topics that interested you. It is definitely hard to remember everything that goes on during this week. All in all, this experience is one I will never forget!

Lastly, I want to thank the board of the SDSRT for making me feel welcome! It is so nice that students get to feel a part of something more. I loved the fact that we were able to give our input as students. The student intern program is a great opportunity for students to be involved. It helps us start off on the right foot and be excited for our wonderful profession to begin!