

Riley Jenkins

David McIntyre

MMC Scholars Seminar

4 November 2017

Informational Interview: Anand [REDACTED]

I am interested in interviewing [REDACTED] because, while he is an entomologist and I am interested in marketing and business practices in general, his job is very broad and varies greatly in the business he conducts. I interviewed Anand [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] in Kent, Ohio. There, he works as the Manager of Plant Sciences Research. His work telephone number is [REDACTED], his office address is [REDACTED] Kent, OH, and his email address is [REDACTED]. I met with Anand at Panera Bread when he was in Columbus doing some work with Ohio State's Agriculture Department and conducted the interview.

Anand has a degree in natural sciences, a masters in biology and statistics, and a Ph.D in entomology. He says that dedication and the ability to effectively communicate with the people he is working with are the most important skills for his line of work.

For a successful career in this field, it is important to be a self-starter and to do your best to gain industry experience when you can. He noted that you should at least have some kind of idea of what you are doing before you put yourself into a career. As in a lot of careers, it is important that you work hard and give a lot of effort into your work because it will be what you make of it.

While his educational background is based in biology, specifically entomology, the study of bugs, a lot of what Anand does is very active in the business end of the Davey Tree Expert Company. In the lab he is in charge of, people send in sick plants and the workers in the lab will diagnose the problem and try to figure out ways to remedy it.

Entomology is not a new field, but Anand is attempting to create technology to make fieldwork and other tasks of the company easier and more efficient. A lot of Anand's job is setting up small research projects to figure out ways to landscape more effectively, doing things that he thinks will help the operations of the company become more lucrative, and even finding new services the company can provide for its customers.

Anand said that he didn't have a special intention to become an entomologist and that he actually went to school to learn about Ornithology, or the study of birds. When he realized that there wasn't a lot of interest or funding for studying birds, he chose entomology, the study of insects, because not a lot of people went into that field and there would likely be more jobs available to him while still being able to work in a branch of biology, a field he had a lot of interest in.

Anand likes the uncertainty in his job and being able to figure things out for himself. He especially likes that there is always something new happening that he can get himself involved in. Being able to meet a lot of people while conducting his business is also a benefit of working in this field for Anand.

One of the things that Anand doesn't like about his job is having to do paperwork, satisfy upper management, and manage people. He said that he doesn't like having to constantly manage people. He would prefer if he could just give someone a task that needs done and that they will do it. He doesn't like to deal with all of the drama that he has to take care of as the manager of the lab. He hopes that more people learn and become self-starters.

The skills required in this field are changing in that technology and accessibility to technology is always changing, but the premise of making connections and communicating remains the same in the business operations involved. These operations are changing in that Davey is able to create technology that allows people working in the field to diagnose a sick plant, instead of having to get a sample, fill out forms and submit it to the lab to diagnose. By creating such technology, Davey is able to put less time and money into creating healthy landscapes for its customers and more into making more efficient technologies.

This company does do internships to be a lab assistant where you are able to work in the lab and help the employees that diagnose sick plants that are sent into the lab. To be an intern and work in the lab, it is important to be a self starter because supervisors don't have the time to be watching what you do all day. There

are a lot of small, informal research projects that Anand wants to be conducted, but his schedule does not allow him to take the time to do some of those projects. He looks for people that he can tell what he needs done and they do it with little to no additional instruction because there are times that he cannot be around to give it.

I like that Anand is able to fill his work day as he sees fit and freely pursue his own ideas. I think I possess the skills that he mentioned as being desirable in the eyes of an employer and supervisor, so I think something like this would be a good fit for me. While I think biology and working in the lab is interesting, I think I would rather do something that has more direct creative expression involved on a long-term basis.

I think I would enjoy a career in the fashion industry so I would like to interview a designer or someone that works in a related field. I think I would like to contact some body that works at the Abercrombie and Fitch campus so I can learn more about what goes into being a fashion designer, as well as make connections for a potential internship later in my college career. I am also exploring a career as a fashion designer or just working in the fashion industry by taking clothes that I find at a discount and making them into cute clothes for myself. To showcase my creativity and style, I have started a blog where I will put all of the outfits I make as well as how I made them. I also created this so I had a place that I could look at all of the projects I have done and also show them to potential employers.