

Natalie Mecklenburg

Ms. Smith

Internship 4B

7 February 2025

Annotated Bibliography #6

Hughes, Zach. Personal Interview Conducted by Natalie Mecklenburg. 17 January 2025.

On January 17, 2025, Zach Hughes, owner and founder of Oconee Prosthetics, answered multiple questions revolving around his life work in the prosthetics business. He started by sharing a little bit about him. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Georgia Tech. He later got his certificate in prosthetics at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. He got his start in prosthetics due to his father, who worked at a children's hospital in Atlanta. He stated that he was enamored with his father's work as his father helped kids walk and make use of their prostheses. He shared his favorite aspect of the job, which is the problem-solving aspect to help solve patient's issues with their prostheses. On the other hand, his least favorite aspect of the job is fighting with insurance on behalf of his patients. He notes that there is extreme documentation for this task, which ends up being very exhausting. He leaves off with a good piece of advice for any aspiring prosthetists; One should try and shadow as much as they can before deciding to pursue the education needed for the job. He says that the media often does not show the truth behind prosthetics, as many patients are actually very old and sick.

Zach Hughes is a reliable source for many reasons. The first is that he is the owner of his own prosthetic company. This means he understands all aspects of the field, including patient care, documentation, and running a business. Additionally, he has a vast education from both

Georgia Tech, a well-respected school, and Northwestern University. He has also worked as a technician and a clinician, so he understands both of these jobs which are the backbone of prosthetics. Due to his first-hand experience running a business and caring for patients, Zach Hughes is a very reliable source to hear speak on the field of prosthetics.

This source can be helpful for anyone looking to enter the field of prosthetics. Zach talks about his own experience and education, showing how he took the steps to get where he is now. This could be helpful to someone struggling to figure out educational requirements or the path they want to take. He demonstrates through his degree in Business Management that there is no one way someone has to take to become a successful prosthetist. Additionally, he gives advice by saying that one should shadow as much as they can before deciding to go into this career. This is helpful for anyone unsure of what their next steps will be or if they are undecided on whether or not they want to pursue this career. Overall, Zach Hughes' story acts as an extremely useful resource for anyone questioning if they should enter the field of prosthetics..