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It's funny when my biochemistry & chemistry friends and I talked about what we did over the summer. Many said that they did interesting research project at different places while I said I went to Houston and danced for 8 weeks and then came back here to do research for a month. Although it felt weird at first not to do a longer research period, but dance for 8 weeks was definitely worthwhile for me. It makes me think of a great deal of what I really want to do after I graduate from college this May.

Azimuth for me was a challenging experience, both physically and mentally. I got to take a lot of dance classes to improve my techniques that I might have not been able to do otherwise. Throughout the whole time, I felt that dance is something I can do and would really enjoy it, too. There's always something new to work or think about to improve myself as well as it's never hurt to go back to the basics either. I think living through physical soreness everyday was a big challenge, but when I started taking classes again the next day, everything seems to disappear. I didn't have to worry about anything but concentrate on dance for the whole day. In fact, sometimes, I felt great not having to think about science at all.

However, the summer intensive is now a part of my past and I think how it is affecting or influence my life this fall is more important. It has been about four months since the Azimuth experience, but I don't feel like my thinking has been changed much since the summer other than the fact that I do have IS and other science classes to maintain. The intensive really helped me to think like a choreographer/dancer now as I watch other dance pieces at sharing for the fall dance concert and when I went to New York City to take classes. I feel the connections from what I see to my body. My friends

saw the difference in the way I dance this semester as compared to previous semesters. I feel different, too! I feel like I have become more of a dancer than I have ever thought I would. I see my dance teachers' movements that I learned over the summer in my movements. Now I realized that dancing is not only something that I want to gain, but it's more like something in me that need to be awaken. Without this summer in Houston, I don't think I would be as confident in myself to become a dancer like I would be now. The way that I walk, think everyday here on campus has changed. These last few months of the semester, I feel the urge to be more creative. There has not been a day that I don't think about dance. Now, dance is not only an extracurriculum that I do on the side any more, I think dance has become a part of me. This is something I have not felt during the summer, but now I can feel it. There are changes in me that I can't pinpoint them yet, but I want find out.

I talked with Kim several times now this semester about me with dance. I agreed with her that some times dance is not only something that a person wants to do, but it's something that a person has to do. Now that I think about it, it is very true. Artists are not artists because they want to get a good pay. They are artists because they have to urge to create. I was watching on TV about some famous actors, but the main point that I felt very real and true to me is that we as artists have the urge to communicate to others in different ways other than just talking. We want to express something that words may not be able to explain. As I am writing this, I began to see how much my two choreographies this fall support my thoughts. I see now how much of my reality is expressed in the dance. Hopefully, other people will see it too at the dance concert.

Overall, I feel that the summer intensive really proves that dance can be a possible career for me. It will be a challenge but I think I would be able to get through it.

Currently, it has been a challenge to find something that I would be able to combine both dance and science, but I think I just have to allow time takes over. I am applying to dance graduate school program, looking at some dance kinesiology courses as possible graduate study. However, whatever happens I know for sure right now is that I don't ever think I can stop dancing any more. Dance has become a part of me that it's just hard to forget about.