

The Finish Line

Independent Study Mentorship

Weekly Report 18: January 15- January 19, 2018

As our feet cross the first finish line of our long marathon, it's astounding to see what I have accomplished so far. The ISM Research Showcase that occurred January 17th was a great opportunity to prepare, consolidate, and reflect upon the work that I have put in this year and the growth that has occurred.

Preparing for showcase was a very stressful and lofty task; how was I supposed to put all of my work together on a single board to present to the community the knowledge that I have gained so far this year? The biggest obstacle in this was consolidating my information in a readable way. Not everyone knows much about veterinary medicine, therefore I had to be intentional with what I was putting on the display board. I needed to attract people to my board, not repel them with large words and scary pictures. I chose to go about this by focusing on themes within veterinary medicine rather than the many details. This led me towards focusing on my work with dogs since it related to my upcoming original work. In the future I will focus on preparing a presentation focused on my upcoming work in relation to what I have done in the past that led me to my future work.

Other than preparing for the Research Showcase, I also had to prepare for my first mentor visit. This was a wonderful experience and exposed me to many real world experiences and concepts in context. There is no better way to learn about animal behavior and medicine than being around it in practice. My mentor helped guide me through many procedures and showed me the basics of the clinic from the pharmacy to a standard procedure. This set a great foundation for the work to come in the clinic.

At the end of my mentor visit we discussed what I would like to do for my final product. This leads me to where I am now; brainstorming specific, narrowed down topics that my mentor and I would like to focus on for my final product.

Going forward I will begin to zoom in on veterinary medicine and choose an area out of the many subjects.