

The Future

Independent Study Mentorship

Weekly Report 29: April 9- April 13, 2018

This week was quite the mixture of events and emotions. I was fortunate enough to have an exciting mentor visit and begin looking ahead at the future and how I need to prepare to get there. I'm attempting to fix my past problem of short sightedness by looking ahead at the big picture of my research and what I need to do to get there.

At the beginning of the week I was surprised with an email from my mentor asking if I'd like to join in him in the surgery room for a cesarean section on a Persian cat. This was wonderful to hear and allowed me the great opportunity of getting to see the origins of life. Throughout the procedure I got to experience the rushing emotions of all the technicians and expecting pet owner. Taking away from this experience, it really highlighted to me the great job that is being a veterinarian. Many cases that come through the clinic aren't all that joyful due to injury or sickness, however this was definitely not the case as the entire clinic seemed to light up at the kittens' birth.

Aside from the learning experience I had at the clinic this week, I also began delving into future progress. With the practice Final Presentation Night presentation coming up in class, I wanted to get a head start and change my methodology I used for the last presentation. Before, I had thrown my presentation together in what felt like a rushed manner even though it was a week before the actual presentation, but I have learned that so much information cannot be thrown into a presentation as quickly as I thought if I wanted to have a coherent message and journey shown to the audience. This time I am beginning the planning stages a few weeks in advance in the hopes that my presentation will tell more of a story and flow rather than feeling like a bulleted list.

With my research wrapping up and the final stages of consolidation occurring, it is refreshing to feel that I am looking ahead and won't be so thrown off by what is to come.