

A Sigh of Relief

Weekly Report 01/15/18 to 01/19/18

After finishing my original work, I presented the entirety of my research and work so far at the FISSD ISM Research Showcase. This was a great milestone in my development in this course because I had the opportunity to practice explaining my field of study to people who had no idea what Occupational Therapy is.

Despite the fact that I did not have a mentor at the time, I was able to practice my small-talk skills with complete strangers and have become much more comfortable holding a casual conversation with another person. Also, because of my constant repetition of the same information to each person who visited my table, I have refined the description of my original work that I will eventually present for both the Original Work Presentation and Final Presentation Night. It is a great relief to have jumped this hurdle and to be moving forward beyond my original work.

I also reached another significant goal last week, perhaps the most important one of my entire ISM journey. I now have Occupational Therapist Mrs. Alice Petranek as my mentor. I am greatly anticipating my future work with her. She works independently, meaning that she visits the houses of her patients and works with them in a familiar setting. Therefore, some of my observation experience may not be with her, but we will discuss what I experience during my observation in another public setting. In that way she will act as my mentor and be the chief influence in the development of my knowledge.

Going forward, I plan to get a head start on the development of my final product. This is because I will not only need an intricate knowledge of Occupational Therapy, but I will need a fundamental understanding of carpentry and engineering in order to construct my three-dimensional structure. I know that with the guidance of Mrs. Petranek and my continuing research regarding Occupational Therapy, I can accomplish this daunting yet inspiring goal.