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Thursday and raining

Posted on [August 4, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

Well, I have discovered that this week is going fast. I thought it had just started, and now it is almost the end. Suddenly there is a symposium and lots of packing left to do. Instead of packing last night as I probably should have, we worked on cleaning out the fridge (my favorite thing to do) and watched one of my favorite movies – Phantom of the Opera. As for our project, it's looking pretty good. Our paper has gone through many edits, and I think it is finally ready (probably). Not long from now we are going to be practicing for tomorrow. I think it's all going to go quite well. Currently I, and several others, am soaked. We just got back from lunch, and it's raining quite hard out there.

That's pretty much the exciting events of my life today. I suppose this is probably my last blog. I'm really glad I was here this summer and glad I got to make awesome new friends!

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The week is halfway gone

Posted on [August 3, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

Today has been somewhat eventful. We spent the first part of the morning finishing up post survey things. We had a focus group to discuss things and then filled out a survey. By the time this was completed it was lunch time. (They had cookies!!!)

The plan today is to work on the paper and basically get it finished, and we will probably figure out what we are doing Friday and work on preparing for our practice presentation tomorrow.

Today we are to blog about what we liked about this program and what we'd like to change.

Some things I liked most were working in groups, having the milestone projects, and getting experience in doing research. Staying together in our groups and doing fun activities together was great. I made a lot of friends at this internship, which is awesome. The milestone projects made putting the paper together much easier. We basically had to edit what we had, and add in the results. I'm also really glad that we were able to experience the process of researching from beginning to end. Running the testing was cool, and it was great to see how to make sense of the data we collected. I'm glad to know now that I do find research to be interesting. These are a few of the things that I really liked about the program.

One thing I would have liked would have been starting to work on the actual project sooner. I did like the classes, but I think it would be nice if there were more things related to the project that we could have done in the beginning weeks. It would also be nice if all the classes applied to the research project. Modeling and programming were cool, and I'm glad I got to be introduced to them. But it would have been really cool to be able to apply some of those things to the project we were working on. I think that would have given more meaning to the classes.

Overall, I think this was a good experience and I have gained many friends in these ten weeks.

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Tuesday: The final week

Posted on [August 2, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

It is now Tuesday. Everything has been going good today. We had an interesting luncheon lecture and learned about some research in augmented reality. Later today we will have our team meeting. We are going to discuss results and the paper and other things along those lines. It should be a good meeting. Also, this morning we went and looked at our poster proof, so that is now in the process of being printed. Everything is basically down to continuing the editing of the paper and getting ready for Friday.

On an unrelated note, I finally got to see Megamind last night. It was a terrific movie!

That's all I can think of to say today.

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It's the final countdown!

Posted on [August 1, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

We just completed our final weekend. It was quite fun, and also very relaxing. On Friday Dela and I found a terrific restaurant called 2020. It didn't have much business, which was a little worrisome at first, but the food was delicious! And there was a Ton of food on the plate. Later on we watched some movies and got some ice cream (thanks to Kerstyn for driving!). Yesterday I finally took pictures of Iowa. It only took nine weeks before I got around to it...

We are now into our last week. Today has been going just fine. We have received several emails from Ryan and Jared about ways to improve the paper, so that will be a big goal for the day. By the end of the week, we will have an awesome and perfect paper. We currently have an awesome poster. Kerstyn did an amazing job in making it look beautiful! So, the week will be spent prepping for Friday. I still can't decide if it's going to go by fast or slow.

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Already Thursday?

Posted on [July 28, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

I forgot to blog the last day or two, so I'm going to catch you up. Tuesday was a good day. We went over how to go about analyzing results at our meeting and began work on that. Wednesday was really fun. We visited the Principal Financial Group and got to see their usability lab. We learned about how they do their usability testing. Then we had the best lunch ever, including cheesecake. 😊 There was also a great view of the capitol. Next we went to the Science Center. We did many cool things here. We got to see how the Imax movies are run, and we got to walk behind the dome. That was awesome. We got to see other cool things like the planetarium. Then we walk through the Body World exhibit. We then played around in the museum, and some of us successfully dropped a (fake) egg without it cracking! Today we spent the entire time analyzing our data. We are starting to get some trends. We just have to go through our written notes tomorrow, and then we will be able to make some conclusions. That's what's been happening. We have a talent show tonight, so that will be fun.

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Dessert dilemma

Posted on [July 25, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

The weekend is over. It was a good one. Paintball was okay, and I'm glad I've experienced it. We went to get pizza afterwards, which was amazing. And then I finally got to see Beastly, which was just as great as I was expecting. On Sunday I did absolutely nothing. So now I'm all rested up and ready for the week.

Today has been good. The data from our studies has been typed up, and we have been working on the paper and poster. The paper rough draft is due Friday, so we are getting that ready. Later today we are going to participate in ISP's study. I am excited to see how that goes. They've been working really hard on it. The weeks are going pretty fast. I can't believe there are only 2 left. Yet, even though I'm having fun here with everyone and it's a good experience, I am ready to go home and enjoy my two weeks of summer fun.

As for the title, dessert was once again not cooperative. Once I saw banana bread I was set to get that. But they ran out of course. So I gave up and settled for strawberry cake. Unfortunately I hear that the banana bread was never refilled.

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Friday!

Posted on [July 22, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

It's Friday. That means that we have exactly 2 weeks left at this point. They are going to be two packed weeks. We have to analyze our data and have our paper rough draft written by this coming Friday. Today was good. Alicia and I led journal club. I think it went well. And now we only have one journal club left. For the rest of the day I'm going to find something productive to do to get ready for the coming week.

Tomorrow we are going paint-balling. I've never gone before, so I'm hoping it's a good experience. I'm sure it will be.

So for today, that is all.

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Where's dessert?

Posted on [July 21, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

Today has just flown by. We finished up all of our usability testing, which took most of the day. Thanks to everyone for participating! Now we have a lot of good information and we will start putting it all together and learning from it. We also had an etiquette lunch today. I'm glad we had this, because I didn't realize how many things there were to do when having an important dinner. At first it all seemed a little crazy, but then I suppose first impressions are lasting impressions. It is definitely important to know. The only problem was that there was no dessert involved in this lunch. I'm assuming this gives me permissions to have two desserts tomorrow. 😊

Tonight we have a video scavenger hunt. I'm thinking it will be quite fun.

As Porky the Pig would say, That's all folks!

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Almost Thursday

Posted on [July 20, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

Oh wow. I almost forgot to blog. But it's okay. There are just over 20 minutes before Thursday.

Today went quite well. We spent the morning preparing to run our tests, and after lunch we ran our first two tests. We have been learning quite a bit from these. Tomorrow is going to be nothing but studies, so I think the day will go fast. After those are done we can begin analyzing the data we've collected and start learning all kinds of things.

Tomorrow we also have an etiquette lunch. I'm excited to see how that is.

That's all for Wednesday.

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It's Tuesday

Posted on [July 19, 2011](#) by [Kayla](#)

That's right. It's Tuesday. The morning started off well, because Dela and I randomly decided to take the bus to work, and it came right when we arrived at the bus stop. I don't understand why I am so tired today since I got a ton of sleep last night, but lunch is providing new energy. The rest of the day will be filled with hopefully getting everything into UserZoom and ready for our testing tomorrow. I can't think of anything else exciting to say today, so that's all 'til tomorrow.

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