

Kelli Jackson

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My LAST blog

Posted on [August 2, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

So we are sitting here in the lab, I did not think that I would be as sad as I am. Wow, these other interns really made an impact on me. I learned a lot about all different types of personalities and I was able to work well with the people that I was with. I know that everyone had an awesome team, but I absolutely LOVE LOVE LOVED my team Kayla and Liat are my new friends. Both of them showed me that I need to branch out and be able to open up to people and show my inner side. We were like dynamite together, and it still amazes me on how well we have done and how much we ended up finishing (I still don't know how we did it!). Curtis was an excellent mentor and I admire him for finding something that no one thinks about and trying to make a difference with it. I really hope that he excels with all of the things that he wants to do with his future and I know that we will cross paths again some day! GOOD LUCK ON THE PhD!!! Everyone in VRAC act as if they are a family unit, and I really like that. It makes me feel so comfortable and like I can ask anyone for help and it will always be there. I would like to thank Pam Shill for granting me this opportunity to do research here at VRAC this summer because I would have rather been here than handing out packs of ketchup from the drive-thru at Wendys like I do every summer normally. In a little bit we are having a "picnic" and that will almost be our "last meal together". I am not going to act as if I am not ready to go home, because I am! I can not wait to get back to school and plan out my life and figure things out!! So, I thank Stephen, Pam, Eliot, Dr. Dorneich, and anyone else that made this possible for me!!!!

– Kelli Jackson (kellijack3@gmail.com) **keep in touch**

2 days and counting

Posted on [August 1, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Thank you, we did pretty good on the poster run through presentations and we have all of the equipment over here for the demo in the morning. WOOSHH, what a day this has been, and we had the nerve to think that we wouldn't have things to do in the last few days! We had a huge lunch with our mentors and a couple of the grad students, it was great! And yesterday, Michael Dorneich took us out to lunch and we had a talk about life and what it is that we want to do after we graduate from undergrad. I also tried some new food that Kayla suggested, and it was really good!!! I can not believe that tomorrow is FRIDAY, it came oh so fast, after the poster presentations, that's it! Nothing else to be done. Then Saturday morning it is on the plane we go, all separate, all on our own. Wow, what a summer this has been!!! It has made a major impact on me and I have learned a lot in so little time. I am thinking about getting a new laptop, but I don't know what to get??? Any suggestions?

3 days and counting!

Posted on [July 31, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Count down, 3...2....1!!!! I can not wait to get on the plane and get back to the east coast. The more that I know the day is getting closer, the more anxious I become. I am sitting here as Liat keeps printing poster after poster to get the color right so that we can go and proof it. I wish that I could help, but I have never used nDesign before and I would probably make it worse than it was before; so I think I will just keep working on the paper. Speaking of the

paper, I am trying to make edits to it this morning, but I think its good and doesn't need much more improving; then again maybe I am just getting lazy. I hate working on the same thing day after day after day, so I am kind of lost right now on what to do... I guess that is why I am blogging now, but then what will I do after lunch? I meant to say **CONGRATS FRANCELY** on the conference, I know that you will represent your country and schools very well!! I see that Sheneeka posted a picture of some kind of dog that I think I asked about the other day (thanks for that). I should probably get back to work and stop my blogging.

4 days and counting

Posted on [July 30, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Today has been a different type of day in the lab; everyone has been finishing up on all of the things that they are working on. We just made a quick run to the post office to get boxes to pack some things to send home. I can not believe that this moment is here already and so fast! I am more worried about making all of my things fit into my suitcase than I am worried about not finishing the paper; and that is mainly because we have no choice but to finish it and have a good demo ready. It is good that my team has a demo already, so that allows for more time to finish the paper! I will truly miss my team, I think that we work really well together. They have taught me a lot of things that I did not know, and now I can go back to school and be Ms. Know It All!! This program has made me know that I am definitely going to grad school and I may even apply here, but I don't know if I could actually live out here in Iowa for years at a time. Learning how to statistically analyze data has become something that is new to me, and I still don't know much, but I am learning. I need to stop blogging now and get back to proofing the data.

5 Days and counting

Posted on [July 29, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

This is the last Monday that I will be here in Iowa, and the last Monday that I will be blogging. With this being the last week; I feel kind of bittersweet about it all. On one hand, I am sad that I won't see everyone ever again maybe; but I am also very excited to be going home. Being here I have come to a grips on what I want to do with my life and how I will plan accordingly to that, and I am very thankful for it all. We are finally finished with our user studies and we began to analyze all of our data, which turned out a little weird. We learned that the virtual task was not as effective as natural decay, but it was helpful to some extent. Stephen made a point at our meeting today; and I think that we can branch off of that information. I am not as emotion about these results as others because I was at least happy that it worked somehow. Now that this week is coming to an end, the less time we have to put all of this information onto our poster and in our paper and make it sound good. I am crossing my fingers and we will make this work!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CRAIG

Posted on [July 26, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

I am so happy that today is Friday! I can not wait until I get back to Freddy so that I can take a nap and rest my brain!!! I am so tired today and I don't know why. I took my final this morning for my online Calc II class and I got a 86% on the test , which I am satisfied with. Being done with that class and finishing up all of this research stuff, is starting to bring ease into my life. Our user studies have been running like clock work for the past couple of days, and I am happy that we haven't run into as many problems as I expected there to be. Curtis is warming up to his little interns and he even said that he is going to miss us when we are gone, even if he will only miss us doing his labor. Today was our last journal club..... Yeah, so tonight I might be going out to Stomping Grounds with the others, but I hope I have the energy by then. I need to start packing because I am very last minute when it comes to that. I went to trivia last night with a few grad mentors and interns (actually just Kayla), we were the cool kids last night. My blog is all over the place today because I am half asleep as I am writing this, but other than that I can not wait until tomorrow so that I can DOMINATE in paintball, as well as bond with my fellow interns as I splatter them with paint. This is our last weekend together and I am very sad about it. Who wouldn't want to see all these faces

everyday!? And I found minion dogs if anybody is interested:

So bad, so sad

Posted on [July 25, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Yesterday, we had more user studies; and they were pretty cool and all but there were some moments when I got a little skeptical. For the past few days, I have been thinking about everything that Thelma Harding has told us about grad school and the steps to take to ensure that we do not stress too much over it. I realized that more than likely I will be attending graduate school to make myself more marketable; but I would go to industry first if I were given a good opportunity to do so. My

friend Chad that I always talk about just told me that, "I'm coming to ISU for grad school Kelli, they sold it to me!" and I am very happy for him; but I will not make that decision based off of emotion; I want to really way out all of the pros and cons first. Tonight is pizza and game night here in VRAC, and I am sooooo excited. I hope that the boys will let me play and not ignore me like my family members do when I am at home. Other than that, I take my final for my online class tomorrow morning, and I can not wait because I am ready to be finished with this!!! Everything is coming together, slowly but surely; I have no doubt that everything will be done before next week wraps up.



Finally

Posted on [July 24, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Oh my goodness, I am relieved that we finally started our user studies yesterday! It has truly been hard work and effort put into this thing. I was quite surprised at how fluent my team was when we were conducting the study because I guess I expected everyone to be nervous. I will say that trying to remain professional and holding in my laughs has been really hard for me, since we have so really funny participants. Although we have started the studies, we have so much more things that have to be done in order to be anywhere near finished with our research. From posters, to papers, to analyzing data; the cybersickness team will be very busy this weekend! I can not wait until Saturday, we are going PAINTBALLING! Woohoo.... Later on this afternoon, we have an etiquette luncheon, I can't wait to see how improper I have been eating my entire life. Right now, it's just Sheneeka and I in the lab, all alone; I wish my team hurry up and get here so I can figure out what to do with my life!

"Don't forget to blog"

Posted on [July 23, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

To ensure that I will not forget to blog today, I have decided that I will do my blogging in the mornings. In about a half an hour, my team will be conducting with our first participant in our user study! I am sooo very excited because this is the first time that I actually get to be apart of something that I can call my own. I am very proud of my team as well as myself, and I am extremely thankful for Curtis and the talent that he has. Last night everyone got together and went to The Cafe' for Connie's birthday; and once again Chad told me that I wouldn't like it there because he didn't and he was WRONG!! I loved the food, I ordered the stuffed chicken, which had asparagus and tomatoes as well as kale(which I thought I had never had before); and everything tasted delicious! I am very happy that Connie had a good time, and I was there to watch her order her first drink as a legal woman. The closer we get to coming to an end, the closer I am getting to all of the other interns and I know that they are very talented and I am so glad that I met them. So the lessons that I have learned this week are: [1] Never take people for granted and [2] Never take Chad's advice about ANYTHING!

Happy Birthday Connie Lu

Posted on [July 22, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Today is Connie's birthday!!!! It's her 21st and I am so jealous because she is now of legal drinking age and now it's only me, Kayla, Anna, and Craig left. ☹️ She left the young clan!!! Soooo, last Friday we went to the science center and I originally thought that it would be boring, but it turned out that it was so much fun! We had our 30 seconds of fame and were on the news waving like the little kids; here we are:

+

We also went to some strange Principal that made me realize that I do NOT want to work in an industry job that I will not enjoy. Although it was a great opportunity for us to be there, I was slightly bored. Then on Saturday, we went to the Omaha Zoo!! Chad told me that it was BORING and that I would not like it unless I was a kid; and I BEG TO DIFFER!!!! If me loving the zoo makes me a kid, then by all means; I love being one. The zoo had all types of animals that I had never seen before. The monkey with no butt was the best thing that I had seen in any zoo before. After we left the zoo, the car ride back was so much fun because I learned a lot about a couple of people in our program, which helped me understand why some people are the way that they are. Once we got to Des Moines, we stopped at BWW and ate dinner and it was oh so good. Once we finally got back to Ames, most of us hung out and had a good time that night. I feel like everyone is becoming closer as the program comes to an end, and I hope that everyone at least tries to stay in touch a little bit. Although I am sad to leave, August 3rd is my moms birthday, and I can not wait to get home and shower her with all of my love and throw her a surprise party!!



Wooo!

Posted on [July 17, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Its Wednesday, and I cannot wait until this weekend, when I am able to RELAX(somewhat at least!). My team and I have been working very hard since Sunday, so it kind of feels as though it is Thursday to me. Yesterday we had a luncheon lecture that I think the entire group found very interesting, I know I did! Dr. Nadolny came and talked to us about all of the neat things that she is doing with her students; which I found to be very cool. After everything later on in the evening I joined a couple of interns and we went to get 95 cent tacos that were DELICIOUS! I also learned a lot of information about ISU as a whole. This morning my team and I were over in our "other" lab trying to fix up everything because it's always a problem with SOMETHING! Other than that I think we walked out of the lab today feeling pretty good about the outcome of things. it seemed as if everything was in a pretty good condition. Tomorrow we have to give presentations to UPENN, which I think is okay and all, but I feel like I am losing so much time in the next three days, and we need that to ensure that everything will be finished by August 2nd; but anywho. Let's cross our fingers and hope for the best!

What to do?

Posted on [July 16, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

For the past few days, I have been really late with blogging, or I just totally forget all together. That is mainly

because I have been SOOO busy these last 2 weeks with all of our research stuff. Yesterday my team and I were over in Black setting up everything that we needed for our user study and making sure everything worked; and it DIDN'T! It seemed like every time that we would fix a problem, something else would end up breaking. But other than that I feel like this team of three girls has learned a lot along our bumpy ride. Later yesterday, we found out that we were having some more IRB problems, UGGGHHH!!!! And without all of the details, we might end up doing a pilot study. Yes I am a little sad, but at the same time they already told us that "You have to fail in order to succeed" and I feel as though even if we can not get published, Curtis will continue our work and make sure that he doesn't make it look as though we did nothing this entire summer. Which is all that I hope for in the future, to at least get an experience out of this, whether it be good or bad!

Hello

Posted on [July 15, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Today, my team and I worked over in the basement of Black fixing and setting up all of our things for our study. I am excited about conducting it and analyzing the data! This has been a long week and its only monday! Can't wait for tomorrow.

Friday.

Posted on [July 12, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

We are about to begin week 8! I can not believe that, it seems like just yesterday we were learning c++ and opengl. Wow, how time flies!! Today was a good day for me, I figured out my problems with unity although there are still a few kinks. This week was a stressful one for my team and I because it was all of the modeling and coding that took over all of our days. To me, that was the worst part because once we get into the user studies and the data collecting; thats will be the most interesting part! So with this week coming to an end, we have gotten over the major hump that has been in our way (well for me at least)..... YAYY!!! Tomorrow we will be going to Jordan Creek mall which should be fun because I haven't seen a mall in the past couple of months. After that we are supposedly going to some strange bridge and taking cool pictures, that will be really cool... See you on monday!

Opps!

Posted on [July 11, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

This is the second time that I forgot to blog (from Tuesday). Anyways, I am very anxious and excited for this week to be over and for next week to begin because then we will begin our user study; which is the most important part DUH! But the other day Kayla was so sad and frustrated that she couldn't figure out the issue that she was working on, but guess what??!! She got it yesterday!!! All it took was a little more time and patience, and I was very happy for her because of the things she was saying the previous day. Earlier yesterday morning, we went to John Deere engine factory in Waterloo and it was a very good experience. Most people can not say that they have been there before, but I had a good time and I learned a lot. For lunch they took us to this fast food place that I had never heard of before and the food was really good!(Although Christian stole my sandwich lol).... 3 of my fellow interns are gone today, and it will be very sad without them, but I hope they have a great time at the conference. I've never been to one before, so I can't wait to hear what it was like while they were there!

Home Stretch?

Posted on [July 8, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

So as many have been saying, we are approaching the home stretch in this internship, (tear tear); but I don't agree with that because my team has barely gotten started with the good stuff. Wednesday was a great day here at VRAC

because we did a great job on our presentations and we had a four day weekend! I had a blast in Ames this weekend, it turned out better than I imagined. This year was the first year that I was away from my family for the 4th of July; but it was a great experience. I got to see the fireworks on the 5th, and they were pretty good. We woke up and made breakfast and went to explore Main St., that was a good time! I also went to the water park and this time I got in the water, got my hair wet, dived off the diving board, and went down all the slides!!! And I NEVER get my hair wet, but I enjoyed myself and I'm glad that I was able to experience that before my time is up here. This morning Curtis came and saved the day for me, as far as fixing my unity problem and that definitely made things a whole lot easier! I can't wait until the end of the week so that we can have all of our things done and ready to test on people!!!

Oh!

Posted on [July 2, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

I almost forgot to blog today, I found it funny when I saw other interns post that they forgot to blog; and now I see how easy it is. Today was very beneficial for my group. We practiced our speech a lot today, and I'm pretty sure that I will be a walk in a part tomorrow.(I'm lying, I'm really nervous).... Anywho, after that is all said and done with, we dont have anything to focus on other than our experiment. Yesterdays Ethics course was a very interesting class, and it brought back memories from the course that I took a year ago at my college. Also today, we met with a couple of grad students that were so nice and helpful enough to offer their time to help us figure out the hardware for our research. We finally have a tracking device!!!! Yayyyyyy!!!! Now I just have to figure out how to get my peg to go into the hole in my virtual mitigation task..... Life would be much better then!

What a week this shall be

Posted on [July 1, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Although this will be only a 3 day week, it will probably be one of the hardest couple of days that my team will face. We have a lot of programming and stuff to do before Wednesday gets here. We are working with Unity for the first time, and it is a bit of a challenge for me because I have to include collision detection, which is the hassle that I am currently facing. Then on Wednesday before the break; we have to do our Mid-Oral Presentations, I am not nervous to do them at all, but I know that it will be a little nerve racking to present this to a group of people that I do not know at all. Then after that, I get a BREAK!!! Woo I can not wait for that to come because I am truly in need of it. Later tonight we are supposed to get bowling at the Memorial Union, which should be really fun. I hope by the time that it gets here I will have been figured out the solution to my Unity problem.... Oh and we have our first Ethics class in 10 minutes; this should be interesting.

Friday

Posted on [June 28, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Its Friday, Friday!!! I am so happy that today is a "victory" day, I get to go to my room and SLEEP when I leave here today. This morning I had to take a proctored test (thank you Andrea), for my online Calc II class, which is one of the main reasons that I was stressed this week from studying for that. Luckily I got a 90% on it, yeah pat me on the back; but I am super ready for tomorrow morning to get here so I can see what this trip will be like. I can not believe that we are finishing week 5, that is CRAZY!! Time is flying right through my fingers as I type this! Yesterday we meet with our research team, and might I say we left the meeting "feeling the pressure" for sure. We got to meet another one of the mentors (Rick) that I had never met before. In a little while, we will get to go to Jon Kelly's lab, and test a couple of things that we need to get started on for our research. With that being said, its time that I go get started.

What to blog about?

Posted on [June 27, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Again, I am not sure what there is to blog about. My group came to a conclusion today about the task that we will use to induce sickness within our study. We took pictures this morning and there were pretty cool; we definitely have an intelligent group of people in our program. I appreciate Pam Shill and whomever else was responsible for the meal last night!! That was really nice and it made me feel like I was home for a little bit. While at the restaurant, I decided to try DUCK, it was "alright", not too bad, but I guess I thought it would taste just like chicken, and it doesn't. Later on we have a very serious team meeting that I am excited for, I believe that this one will be the one that will determine everything that we will be doing from here on out. Also, I CANT WAIT UNTIL THE WEEKEND GETS HERE!!!!

06-26-13

Posted on [June 26, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

I am not sure what there is to blog about today, but here I am. Today we had a luncheon lecture, but there was no specific speaker. Instead Pam Shill talked to us and made sure that everything was going okay within our personal lives, as well as in the program. I appreciate her taking time out of her day to do that because I know another REU program that my friend is interning at and he hates that his program is strictly business. This opportunity was a blessing, and I am glad that I am able to be a part of it. Tonight we go to a Thai restaurant, and I am a little sketchy and more so excited because I dont think I have ever had "real" Thai food before. Any who, my group has to get back to work on our lit review and research for cybersickness.

Bye

What a day!

Posted on [June 25, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Today has been a very long one thus far, and its starting to feel more and more like research as the days go by. This morning the lab was very quiet, each team was in their own little worlds doing their research and working on their projects. I feel like the cybersickness team is narrowing down a lot more than we were before. Kayla started an outline for us to do our lit review for, and it was very helpful, we have a whole page full of stuff already. Most people seemed worried about the lit review, but I know that it wont take very long at all us to write it up. Although I am tired of reading papers and reviewing stuff; this is "mini grad school", so I better get used to it!! Speaking of which I better get back to reading now!

Rain, Rain, go away

Posted on [June 24, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

This morning I was rudely awoken by the stormy rain, and thunder. But all in all, I made it to VRAC safe and sound. After doing a little more background research on our new focus; I stumbled across a very interesting article that had a lot of good examples and techniques that I think we will find useful for our study. After that, we had a session with Stephan about how to give a good talk, I found that information helpful being that next week we will be giving our Mid-Presentations on what we will be doing and what we have done already. The pressure is on for the cybersickness group, we have a lot to learn and figure out this week as well as the next because we need to be getting into our study. Later today we will be presenting our modeling projects, and might I say; I think ours is sooo "cuddling". I am a bit sad that sand volleyball is canceled for this evening, but then again; we NEED that time to be doing other things with our research teams.

I cant believe its already Friday!

Posted on [June 21, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

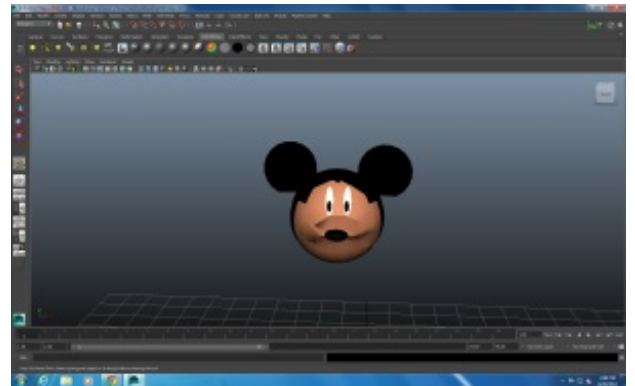
Today is the best day of the week, Friday! I am so happy because I know that I will be able to catch up on some sleep, as well as homework too. This has been a very fun week, and I am sad that this was the last day of Maya class. Modeling has been a very interesting experience for me because my school doesn't offer classes like this. I am a little scared about the next up and coming weeks because they will be even MORE hectic as far as time and readings. Craig and I facilitated this weeks Journal Club today, and it was quite interesting to be discussing a topic that everyone was intrigued about and to hear the different ideas that people were coming up with. It was so funny because the article discussed cybersickness a lot(which is my field of study for the summer), but Craig actually chose the article on his own. This was the first article that we have ever had that didn't have much, if not any, critique. Yesterday, my group and I got to wear a HMD and walk around(sort of) in a virtual world, and see what that was like. It was very fun for me because it was the first HMD that I have ever worn in my life and I actually got to experience the exact things that I was reading about. I am excited for the farmers market tomorrow, so that I can get some fresh food and to see what Des Moines is like and what all the hype is about.

Woooshhhh

Posted on [June 20, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Today has been very informative and in my opinion productive. I was in the process of drawing Mickey Mouse, but I have to stop because I have research that I need to be doing; so here he is:

He would've looked a lot better had he had more free time to work on him, but I don't. After a scavenger hunt for our Craft of Research class, I now know that there are a lot of things that my group and I need to get done before this week is over. Yesterday we went GOLFING, and it was more fun than I thought. I mainly think it's because of the people in our group, we know how to make things a good time. I am tired and I can not wait to get to my room so that I can go to sleep!!



Wednesday

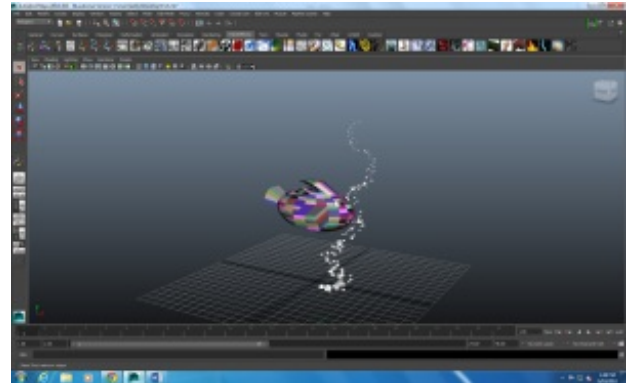
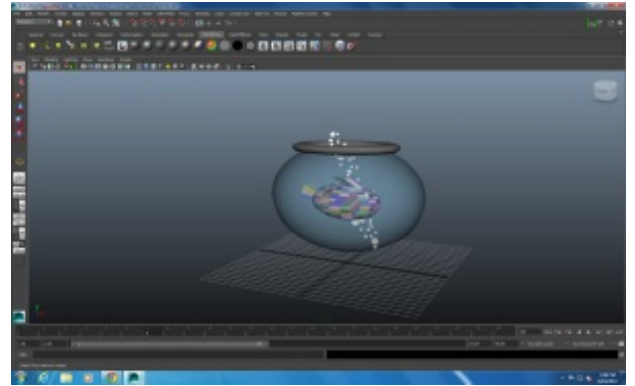
Posted on [June 19, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Today was a very good and productive day so far at least, I had a good time learning modeling this morning because I learned a lot of new things that I have been trying to figure out how to do. I was creating a nice pyramid at first, but then I was like "I want to do something else", so I started to create a fish which I will show you soon. Yesterday we were not quite able to have a research team meeting, but we did have a slight conversation. We learned that we just might get the Oculus Rift in enough time to do some type of research with it, but if not we still will be using HMD to do our research with. I am very excited now that I know the direction that we are going within my team. They have showed me that physiological research can be very interesting and I become more intrigued each time I read about it. We learned that we will have to build up our knowledge on Python because that is what we will have to program our simulation with, and that excites me because the more languages that you know, the better. This program is really opening my eyes to all of the different possibilities and directions that I can take once I graduate from my University. Anyhow, here is **Angelica**:

Robotic Dinosaurs and Laziness

Posted on [June 18, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

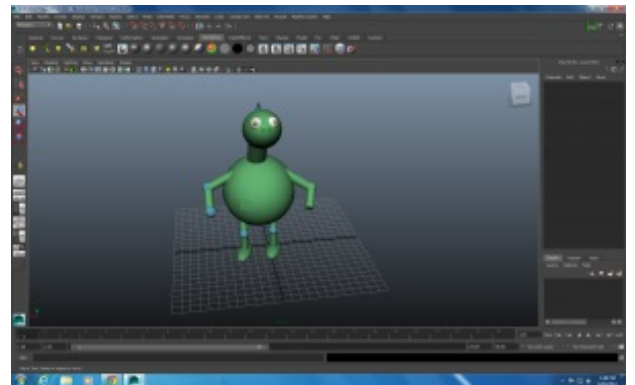
So, yesterday we went to the water park at first I was a little on edge because I doesn't swim, tan, or get my hair wet!!!! But after I got there and I saw a LAZY pool; I was soooo happy because me and lazy pools go together like peanut butter and jelly. After I was in the lazy pool and got splashes by dozens of aggressive children for about an hour I just chilled on one of the lawn chairs. This morning we had our second day of modeling (MAYA) class, and I really enjoyed it BUT the assignment of the day was to make a dinosaur..... I have nothing against dinosaurs, but let me just tell you; I did HORRID! It looks more like a robot with spikes and pink fingernails.. Its kind of pathetic, either way it is my creation and I will always love and adore "Robotosaur", whom I will gladly introduce you to::



Modeling!

Posted on [June 17, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

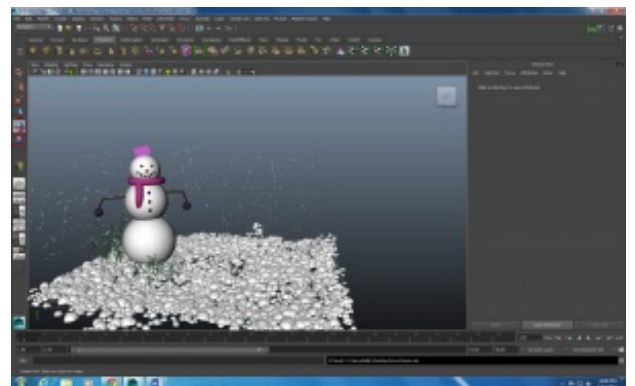
Surprisingly, this is the first Monday that I woke up feeling energized and ready for the day. It was probably because I got to catch up on a bit of sleep! Saturday morning was very comforting; my lovely group members Lanya and Anna cooked breakfast for us and it was delicious :), and SkyZone was THE BEST!!! I think that we all got to bring the inner kid out in us. At first I was like "awww only an hour, this wont be fun!", but after twenty minutes I was wondering why they didnt just schedule us for a half an hour!! I woke up sore the next day, but it was all worth it in the end because I got to experience a room full of nothing but trampolines! Sunday was my day to myself kind of, being that the cybersickness team came together and made a beautiful Bop It. This morning we had our first Modeling class, and I REALLY enjoyed it; it was something that I was able to get the hang of very easily. Here is my snowWOMan scene:



TGIF again

Posted on [June 14, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

I am a little excited that today is Friday, but on the other hand working on this graphics project is going to be something that consumes my life this weekend. Today has been pretty good so far, we got to work on our projects a little and then we had journal club which was cool. In journal club today, we talked about two very different articles that grabbed my attention in their own ways. The first article was about Augmented reality in the medical field; I see that as beneficial because it could help my mom and many other people that I know in the



medical industry. The second was about autonomous cars, which I am opposed to a little bit, but I also see the benefit in it. I was mainly opposed because I don't know if I would be comfortable with the idea that I have NO control over the car that is driving me, yes I may have gotten a ticket before, but over all I think that I am a good driver and I would like to be able to keep my privileges to drive when I want to. When you think about it, will there be a need in getting a license or taking drivers ed anymore? I don't think so, but that's my opinion. Tomorrow we will go to the skyzone and I will have an amazing time because I love trampolines!!!

Graphics and such...

Posted on [June 13, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Yesterday I finally got to see EXACTLY what light painting was! I knew that it had to do with lights and taking cool pictures, but the experience was AWESOME. I enjoyed that last night although I was extremely tired and I really wanted to be in my bed asleep. This morning was a drag getting out of bed. This program keeps us very busy and I think my sleep pattern is way off(maybe it has to do with the change in time zones still, idk). We had a successful Graphics class this morning I felt; because I got a better understanding of how to code the new material and what not. I like the idea of using the keyboard to play the game of Bop It better than using the mouse because using the mouse we would have to control the area in which the option is located. The pace is starting to pick up rapidly with everything that we have to get done; we have to read this, and read that. I THOUGHT I was going to be able to get some sleep this weekend, but I thought wrong! We have to get this project done and quick! Although I am very enthusiastic about Skyzone on Saturday!!!!

Hump day of week 3

Posted on [June 12, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

This week continues to get busier and busier! This morning we had our third day of programming class and I continued to work on my planetary system that we got assigned to do for homework. I think that I did pretty good for it being the beginning of me learning OpenGL still, but I know that I still have things to work on. My group and I unanimously agreed on creating a BOPit program to present to the class on Monday; but I hope that we don't overwhelm ourselves with that idea since we have a lot of other things to do. At 2:00 we will have our first "Intro to HCI" course and I can not wait to see what that class will consist of. The meeting with our groups went pretty good yesterday; and now we will be adding EEG to our research, although it has nothing to do with my background; I find it interesting to learn about.

New Experiences

Posted on [June 11, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

I really enjoy this program more and more each day mainly because it challenges me to do things that I don't like(i.e. picnics), but then after I experience them; I LOVE THEM! I am going to make it my duty to go home and make my friends have a "cook-out" picnic with me at least once a week, and they will enjoy every minute of it ☺! The hotdogs and pasta salad were extremely good and I thank Andrea and Lisa for doing that for us. While at the beautiful park, I played 'not so' Ultimate Frisbee and it gave me a work out, I don't know why I keep volunteering to play when it makes me feel like I am about to die, but that is another thing that I will take back home and make someone do with me because I like it!!!! Any who, this morning we had day 2 of Graphics class and I am having a little struggle with my solar system program, but I will get it eventually. Jeff's Pizza gets a thumbs up in my book; that's what we ate at our luncheon lecture today after listening to Professor Vance talk to us about her industry and the path that she has taken to get where she is today. These lectures have changed my direction after I get my Bachelors' and that is to keep on going and attend graduate school.

Week 3 here we come

Posted on [June 10, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

I am excited about this week (Week 3), the further that we go in the program, the more information that I am learning. Last week we ended our C++ classes, and this week we begin our Graphics classes. So far learning graphics has been very interesting and fun; especially since this will be the time where everyone gets to show their creativity skills. I can't wait to see what every comes up with for the graphics project, and I know that my group will do very well. Tonight we have a cookout and tomorrow we have another luncheon lecture(which I am anxious to see who will be speaking to us for). Also today at 2, my group will present the finished product of our "CyberSickness BlackJack Experience"(I just made up that name, its really just Blackjack); but I am really waiting to see this Edamon game that the AR team has been working oh so diligently on.

TGIF

Posted on [June 7, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Today is the best day of the entire week, not only is it FRIDAY, but it was also PAYDAY!! Earlier today we had programming class and it was pretty cool because I learned some additional information about the new material. I think that I like C++ better than JAVA, but I still have to grasp the entire concept. We also had Journal Club again today and I enjoyed the article that was chosen for us to read this week! It was about Augmented Reality pop-up books; which I would have LOVED if they had when I was a kid. This week was a long and educating one, I learned about the successful students and professors here and the career paths that they all have taken. It really makes me wonder about graduate school and where I think that I might want to go to further my education; I might consider Georgia State even(since its close to where I am now). I have a lot to think about and it is actually exciting to know that this program is opening and helping me to see so many new doors that I haven't even thought about.

Movies and things....

Posted on [June 6, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Yesterday was a very successful day. My group and I were able to map out our plan for our Blackjack program that we will have to present on Monday. We got a lot accomplished yesterday, and I feel more comfortable with the material that I have been learning. It is amazing that I am grasping the hang of C++ in a matter of days, when I would've been learning in over the course of an entire semester. I am happy that my group members have been patient and understanding with my lack of knowledge in C++, and they are teaching me little by little everyday. Last night a few of us went to see Great Gatsby, and it was GOOD! I really liked it, I think I hated the book because we had to read it as a whole in High School(I prefer to read things by myself). After the movie I got a call from my mom and she told me that she was about to call the Iowa Police Department because she couldn't "find me" I found that hysterical because she won't just let me grow up. I think she would have a tracking device attached to me if she could lol. I am really beginning to become comfortable here in Iowa, and I am honored to have the experience!!!

Stressful

Posted on [June 5, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

This week has been a little bit of a stressful one for me personally being that I am taking a online summer course while I am participating in this internship. Balancing my time and homework has been a little challenge thus far, but I know that I will be able to push through it. Yesterday working with my group on our program was alright. I did not feel that confident about the new software that we are learning and I still am a little shaky with it, but I know that eventually I will get the hang of things. I am excited about the blackjack program that we will create, and I hope that everyone else enjoys it as well. I look forward to the movies tonight, we will either be seeing Great Gatsby or Iron Man; which both sound exciting. I am SOOOO tired of this rain here in Iowa, I think it is making me feel under

the weather a bit, but I will be alright.

The gym and deli sandwiches

Posted on [June 4, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

Yesterday was not that hard of a day as some of the previous ones, my group and I read our articles and elaborated on the concepts that we want to explore with our project. Then yesterday evening, we went to state gym and shall I say; it was AMAZING; that has to be one of the prettiest gyms that I have ever seen. I played basketball with some of the fellow interns and had a good time doing that! Then we played volleyball boys vs. girls and the girls demolished the guys by a ridiculous amount. This morning was a little bit of a drag because it is rainy and gloomy outside, but once I got in the lab I felt rejuvenated again, first we had another programming class, and then we had some delicious sandwiches at our first luncheon lecture(I hope all of them are going to be like this). Later we will meet with our research teams and my group will get to discuss our concerns about with our mentors. Day by day I am getting extremely excited about doing the research on the cybersickness topic. I cant wait to see what the VRAC department has in store for us next!

Conquering one of my fears

Posted on [June 3, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

This weekend the entire group and our mentors went to a ropes course, and shall I say, it was AMAZING!! I would have never done something that extreme, and I was very nervous as to what to expect. After the 45 minute ride to the course, we got there and it was kind of cold and rainy, so I wasn't all that excited about climbing ropes in the rain, but once we got started I began to be at ease about the challenges to come. I have, well should I say HAD a fear of heights, and this weekend I challenged them and I feel as though I conquered them. I also gained a huge sense of trust within my fellow interns, and I hope that they learned that they could trust me also. I enjoyed every bit of the ropes course and I am glad that we have a program that likes to keep us close and involved with each other in every aspect.

This morning (Monday) we had our first Programming class, and I found it very interesting because there were some things that I knew from learning JAVA, but then there were very different things that I had never seen before. This week is not as strenuous as the last, but I know that we are cracking down on the research that we are doing, and I am glad to be in the Cybersickness group because we have a very interesting and broad project that we are working on.

Super excited and ready for action...

Posted on [May 31, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

After the past long tiring days before us, we have been able to see some amazing things; for instance the C6. I was so impressed with the dynamics of that facility. I know that it took a lot of money, hard-work, and preparation to build a place like that! Now I know why Mrs. Shill said it costs a lot of money just to turn the lights on in there. I was kind of skeptical about participating in the user studies; since me and Lanya are last everyday; but there were extremely interesting and I was overwhelmed by the work that these Grad Students have put into those studies. After meeting with my group, "CyberSickness", I became very interested in the topic and I can't wait to make people sick (kind of kidding) to get to feeling of what the research will be like. The topic is very interesting and I am excited and ready to get my hands dirty while enjoying the opportunity that Iowa State has afforded me.

Welcome to Iowa State University

Posted on [May 30, 2013](#) by [kellij1](#)

After my first day as a hard working intern, I felt very welcomed and excited about the days to come. I was very pleased that everyone here was very friendly because walking into a new environment with you peers can be scary; but they are just like me. I am extremely excited about working with the other 11 interns and learning more about them and from them, as well as the amazing staff. Pam Shill and everyone that is apart of this program have helped me feel welcomed and ready to begin my new journey and I greatly appreciate that.