

Janae Hoyle

 projects.vrac.iastate.edu/REU2014/

segundo

Posted on [July 31, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

second to last day here at VRAC. time to present, finalize our paper, take a bunch of post-surveys, and pack. 1 day and 21 hours until I'm up in the air on my way home ☐
☐

pilot study

Posted on [July 30, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

going to run our pilot study today!!! hopefully ya'll will like it!

hopefully we can be done with our paper by tomorrow. I really just want to relax on Friday and enjoy our last day at Iowa State.

72 more hours until I'm back in the peach state! 🍑

papel

Posted on [July 29, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

this paper is undergoing some editing now. we'll probably have a revised version by the end of the day so we can incorporate our results section before Friday. can't wait for Turkish dinner tonight!

cinco de Iowa State

Posted on [July 28, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Only five days left at Iowa State! Strange to think I'll be home this time next week! So excited to see my friends, family, and eat tons of Publix, Chick-fil-A, and Brusters.

And good news! We get to run pilot studies on Wednesday! Woo!!

ocho

Posted on [July 25, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

only 8 days left at Iowa State! 8 days until you'll see me squatting 155 at the State Gym. My body is ready.

Project coming along. We're (hopefully) going to show the app to future ISU football players today! Woo!

single digits



Posted on [July 24, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

We are now in the single digits. Only 9 days left at Iowa State! Its crazy to think that this time next week most of my room will be packed and hopefully all my food will be gone.

My favorite social media site, twitter, released their [company demographics](#) yesterday. Its pretty similar to other tech companies such as linkedin, yahoo, and google. Definitely a lot a work needs to be done to attract more women and minorities, especially in tech.

Going to visit...

Posted on [July 23, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Jack Trice Stadium today! Woo!

Other than that, revising the poster and paper. 10 more days! Almost in the single digits!

Publix, Chick-fil-A, and Coke

Posted on [July 22, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Starting to miss home. I want to see my friends and family, sleep in my own bed, and go to the spa. I haven't been home for more than a couple of days all year!

The project is going well. Just a rough draft and poster to go. Maybe we'll be able to do user studies?

11 days to go!

Bye Felicia

Posted on [July 21, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

I've been debating posting a blog like this for some time now. However, after our ethics class today it is the *perfect* time for this post.

I have a huge passion for race relations in America. Not only because I'm a minority, but I see the data and know that soon minorities will be become the majority in America. There are so many problems in how our nation is dealing with race. We are far from a post-racial society. From voting rights to education policy to increased incarceration rates, there are so many systems in place that put minorities in a far worse situation than others. And if minorities will become the majority in a couple of decades, we must change these systems and the way minority children are highly likely to drop out of school, end up in jail, or live in dangerous neighborhoods. I could go on and on on this topic, but alas there is work to be done. I'm always down to talk about race relations after work though.

And oh if you're scared minorities will become the majority in America, please [check your privilege](#).

Israeli–Palestinian conflict

Posted on [July 18, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

I'm sure you've heard about it, but do you know the history behind it? After I saw [this video](#) yesterday, I knew I wanted to dedicated this blog to the conflict.

I don't want to give my biased opinion on the situation, so I HIGHLY suggest you read [this article](#). It explains the

current situation between Israel and Palestine so well.

With so many civilians being killed on a daily basis its important the we don't turn a blind eye to this war.

Running

Posted on [July 17, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

I love running. Even though I may not be that fast, its a huge stress reliever for me. I can crank up my music and go on forever. Now that we only have a few weeks left in Ames, I've decided to run to the places I want to visit. So far on my list is Wheatsfield Co-op, Stomping Grounds, The Cafe, and Arabia Coffee. I also want to check out the mall despite the bad reviews I get from everyone.

All is well on the project front. We finished our sprites and now we just need to move onto editing our poster and paper.

Read this [amazing article](#) on education inequality. Highly suggest you read it as well!

Papaoutai

Posted on [July 16, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

All is well on the project front. We're quickly working on our sprite spreadsheets and should have them done soon.

We get to go home a little early today for the volleyball tournament. Woo! Its such a glorious day outside!

Also I just heard this amazing song called Papaoutai by Stromae. [Listen!](#)

Flower beards?

Posted on [July 15, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Yesterday was pretty productive. We finished our football models and started working on our poster. I'm really into minimalist design, but incorporating that into a scientific paper just doesn't work. Nevertheless, I hope we can keep our poster simple, yet effective in delivering our research.

My friend sent me [this article](#) today. Forget flower crowns, flower beards are the new thing. I expect to see all the guys rocking this new trend soon. I'm talking to you Getch and Phil.

Maya fun

Posted on [July 14, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

We're moving into the final weeks here at VRAC and our team has made tons of progress with our football models. Shout out to Phil for being amazing at modeling and Jesse for tackling Photoshop.

This weekend was fun. Although I didn't like the butterfly gardens, the rest of it was gorgeous and relaxing. And the random aliens everywhere were a plus.

Now onto more Maya!

The first time in forever

Posted on [July 11, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

It has been quite a while since I've posted on here! Sorry! With work, internet problems, and presentations, blogging wasn't even on my mind.

In my absence, our team has made progress in our marching band and football geometries. I'm setting a personal deadline for the football models to be completed by next Tuesday at the latest. With only three weeks left, I want us to have a good looking application for our user studies. Also, I signed up for a bunch of hackathons in the fall! Being impulsive, I signed up for a few on the west coast.

Lebron James is going back to Cleveland! Who would have thought?!?

A ways to go

Posted on [July 7, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Chicago was a blast. I missed being in a city environment and Chicago did not disappoint. Highlights include Navy Pier fireworks, the bean, sears tower, the magnificent mile, and satisfying my lamb craving in Greek town.

I can already tell the new few weeks are going to be crazy intense. We have mid-summer presentations on Thursday and a poster draft next week. Time is going to fly by.

I love the bean!!!

Halfway through the week

Posted on [July 1, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

We're already halfway through this week, work-wise. Tomorrow Mari, Alexis, and I are off to Chicago! Can't wait to go to the pier, beach, and try their famous pizza!

We're slowly cranking out our lit review and methods paragraph. Hopefully by next week we can spend all our time working on the app.

Luncheon lecture was interesting today. As a rising sophomore, I haven't really thought about graduate school that much. I'm still trying to see if my personality and work style fits more with industry or research. Hmmm only time will tell.



Rain Rain go away

Posted on [June 30, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Tornado Warning. Thunderstorm Watch. Flash Flood Warning.

AND A TORNADO WAS JUST SPOTTED OUTSIDE OF AMES!

Finally experiencing a true Iowa summer! This is way better than the Twister ride at Universal!

What's up with the interwebs?

Posted on [June 27, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

My internet has been super slow all day! Kind of frustrating. *sigh*

After regressing last night on my healthy diet, I've decided to start anew. Only healthy food going in this stomach for the next 5 weeks! 🍷

Mall of America tomorrow! This may be the only time I don't mind waking up super early because clothes, shopping, and roller coasters! I mapped out my plan last night and am ready to go!

Partly Cloudy With a Chance of Sunshine

Posted on [June 26, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Ghana lost due to Ronaldo's goal in the final minutes. I can't be that mad though. I mean, have you seen Ronaldo? On the plus side, USA advanced so I still have a team to root for. So not all is bad.

We're still working on our IRB and app. The workload is definitely starting to get more intense. We're more than halfway through the summer!

Time to work on the marching band character and plan my Mall of America trip!

Running Trails

Posted on [June 25, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Last night, I decided to venture outside and run on the trail. It was gorgeous, the sun was just starting to set and it wasn't humid at all. Running outside beats the treadmill any day. I may run to The Cafe and get a sandwich one evening.

Our research team meeting yesterday was really short, but productive. We now have assignments we need to complete before Friday! Time to get to work!

3 days until MoA!

STEM

Posted on [June 24, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

The luncheon lecture we had today was fantastic. A lot of points were raised in the discussion that I found were interesting.

Two of the points that interested me the most was accessibility to technology and opportunities for people in low income areas to succeed given typically low resources in their schools, neighborhoods, etc.

Accessibility to technology is one of the most important issues not just in our nation, but the world. There's no disagreeing with the fact that technology is becoming more readily accessible and affordable. However, what is far

more important is how technology is used and what people can learn from it. If a person from a low-income area can find out more about inspirational people succeeding from similar neighborhoods, it can help them want to do better in school and inspire others in their neighborhood to want a better future than the one that is [expected of them](#).

Another thing thought we could have discussed more was using technology to inspire more women and minorities to study STEM. With Google's new [diversity report](#) and the number of women who graduate in STEM, it is a critical issue the United States *needs* to address more.

In high school, I won the national aspirations in computer science award through [NCWIT](#). Its a great resource if you want to learn more about women in computer science fields!

Workouts Galore

Posted on [June 23, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

On Saturday I received our rugby workout plan and its pretty intense. Weight and interval training galore. But have to put in hard work to see results!

First week without classes! Woo! More time to work on our research project. Our Unity app needs a lot of work, but we're determined to work hard on it. I'm playing around with the football model our team bought on Maya right now so we'll see how that goes.

Also, this video made me LOL so hard this weekend. Enjoy! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1zLzWtULig>

TGIF

Posted on [June 20, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

TGIF!!! Skyzone and TJ's tomorrow and Mall of America next weekend! So much to look forward to! And our team is almost done with the tedious IRB Application! Woo!

And as a added bonus, its a glorious day outside! No clouds in the sky and the perfect temperature. I don't want to be stuck inside this lab!

Chicago bus tickets are purchased!!!! 

with a chance of meatballs...

Posted on [June 19, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Oh man. I'm stuffed. They had one of my favorite foods, meatballs, at lunch today and I kind of went overboard. This diet is getting harder and harder to stick too.

Our team met last night to create a rough draft of our IRB application. As someone who strongly dislikes filling out

forms, the IRB was the worst. I'll be glad when we it gets approved!

Also we just found out we can leave the day before the 4th if we're traveling somewhere. That means more time in CHI-TOWN!

Next week classes end and I'm beyond ready to start playing with our app. Its going to be great playing around with Unity, Photoshop, and Maya.

Back to jamming to ALT-J, work, and dreaming about Trader Joe's Italian meatballs....

Chicago or Bust...

Posted on [June 17, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

I *really* want to go to Chicago for the 4th. It has been on my bucket list for the longest time now. And it costs less than \$100 to get there! Score!

Alas, while I countdown to my Chicago adventure, I'm spending time working. Research, Unity3D, Lit review, so much. Also, I've decided to run everyday!!! I ran Cross Country in high school and loved it. Then college and the unlimited meal plan happened and the only form of exercise became climbing 4 floors to get to my dorm. I can't wait to see how far down my 5k time comes this summer...hopefully.

**So
Fresh,
So
Clean**

Posted
on [June
16, 2014](#)
by [Janae
Hoyle](#)

I
definitely
needed
last
weekend

to rejuvenate. I feel well rested, alert, and enthusiastic. This caribou coffee helps so much too (mmm so good).



How can you pass up this skyline and waterfront views?

Today is the USA vs Ghana match! Although I'm an American, I can't help but root for Ghana. African pride!

We started learning OpenGL today and although some of the syntax is funky, I'm really enjoying it. It's a lot better than modeling for sure.

Also, I just found out that there are buses/trains that go from Des Moines to Chicago. I'm definitely going to visit Chicago now!!! Possibly on the 4th?

End of week tres

Posted on [June 13, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

This week has been *stressful* – physically and mentally. And the fact that today is Friday the 13th doesn't help either. I can't wait to sleep in tomorrow and spend time hiking outdoors. Definite stress relievers.

Our team is making some progress and will have our problem statement done today.

Next week can't come fast enough.

Hump Day

Posted on [June 11, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Yesterday was full of work and meeting with our mentors. They took us on a tour of campus and I finally got to go to Caribou Coffee! It's only a 3-5 minute walk from the lab, so I'm definitely going to head over there more often. We had a pretty productive meeting. Although we're still working on our lit review, I feel that we have a clearer focus of what we want to accomplish and research in the next few weeks.

We just came back from Etiquette Lunch at the UDCC and it was interesting...It reminded me of the classes I had to take at The Etiquette School of Atlanta in high school (read about it [here](#)). Although some of the etiquette dining rules are a tad bit tedious, I think knowing how to eat in a professional setting is an important skill to have.

Also I found out yesterday that I got off the wait list for my human rights in cultural context class! Woo!

Continually amazed

Posted on [June 10, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Ray Junco is purely amazing. His lecture was fun, engaging, and I felt like he was having a conversation with us. I've always had a slight interest in the way people use the internet. As soon as he mentioned he was a fellow at the Berkman center at Harvard, he had my interest. I receive emails from them on a weekly basis and always been interested in doing an internship there during the school year. After his lecture, I think I'm going to look more into it!

While the "itis" isn't hitting me as hard today, I know I'll have to work out harder than ever at the gym today. Carbs are no good for my six pack aspirations.

Solidworks has been eh for me so far. It is cool to design something and eventually have it manufactured, but the software and process is tedious to me. Maybe once we move onto freeform modeling I'll like it more since we don't have as many constraints with our design.

Here's a link to one of favorite women in technology, [Danah Boyd](#), she is a fellow at Berkman as well. Her work is AMAZING!

Iowa is full of surprises

Posted on [June 9, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

On Saturday we woke up early to head to the Des Moines farmers market. I was surprised by the vast amount of vendors and people. And all the adorable dogs were a definite plus. After that, we had an delicious meal cooked by Norene, a grad student here. Thanks Norene!

We then headed to the best grocery store, Trader Joe's to buy some food for our apartments. Thankfully, they had speculoos cookie butter in stock so I picked up a jar. As long as I eat it in moderation (not likely) I will be following my diet plan right?

The best part of the weekend was getting to test the Oculus Rift on Friday thanks to our fabulous mentors. Oculus Rift = amazeballs. I wonder what facebook is going to do with it....

Can't wait to hit the gym today after a 2 day hiatus!

End of the week festivities

Posted on [June 6, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Today we had journal club with facilitated by Team Flight. Listening to the Colonel take was really cool. Listening to his talk reminded me of seeing military planes at air shows and on class field trips when I lived on air force bases as a kid.

Our group is making steady progress with our C++ project and lit review. We have a meeting with our graduate student mentor at 3 to go over our articles and discuss our options on what type of interface would be the most suitable for our project.

Other than working and coding, I'm excited to go to the gym, possibly sauna with Shamaria, and eat a huge burrito from Chipotle afterwards. TGIF!

Falling in love with rowing

Posted on [June 5, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Yesterday a few of us went to the gym after work and it was a blast as always. I was getting a little tired of using the same machines all the time so I decided to explore. I discovered the *amazing* rowing machine and I'm positive it will become a staple in my routine. And as plus, it makes me feel like Frank Underwood.

After the gym I decided to work on our C++ project, read Craft of Research, and start reading Game of Thrones (book one). Its really good so far!

Now time to attempt to code and work some more after a fried food filled lunch.

Inheritance

Posted on [June 4, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Today we learned about inheritance in C++. As one of the things we touched upon in my last CS class, it was nice to get a review and play around with it.

Last night the group of us went to the famous Hickory Park restaurant. While I was a little hesitant to try their barbecue, I ended up getting a BBQ pulled pork sandwich. I was fairly surprised with the sandwich and even more surprised with their selection of sweets. We definitely need to go back there again!

Today I'm going to work on our C++ project, do more unity tutorials, and play around with C#. Woo!

2 Days until The Fault in Our Stars Movie!!!

Basketball blues

Posted on [June 3, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Second day of week two is under way! Iowa has been full of surprises. After hearing about main street and some of the things to do around here, I'm definitely going to spend more of free time exploring.

Yesterday was full of programming, reading, taking user studies, and going to the Gym with Mari, Shamaria, and Jesse. After working out on my own, I decided to join Mari and Jesse in the basketball courts. Hilarity definitely ensued. Being only 5'2 (on my good days) and having little to none basketball skills, I made a fool of myself. But with more practice this summer, I'm sure I'll improve and become the best under 5'5 basketball player Iowa State has ever seen.

I have been enjoying the programming classes and getting to use my creativity skills to build new things! My team decided we were going to create the c++ version of Trouble (the 90s board game) for our project! I'm excited to strengthen my C++ skills as I'm a tad bit rusty.

Programming

Posted on [June 2, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Today is officially the beginning of week 2 and I couldn't be more excited to start our programming course!

The ropes course last weekend was tons of fun and I the mean-girls style trust fall was really scary. I especially enjoyed lunch at the Mexican restaurant since I got to learn more about some of the interns.

Last night I downloaded Duolingo to practice my German! Hopefully by the end of summer I can be fluent enough for my trip in December!

Can't wait to see what this week has in store!

Gym, Eat, Sleep

Posted on [May 30, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

Yesterday myself and a few other interns went to the State gym! The state gym was amazing! Coming from a small D3 school, I was amazed by all of the facilities! Rock walls, hot tub, and even a sauna. I'm definitely going to go everyday! We also go to see the AMAZING C6 and tour the aerospace engineering side of Howe Hall. The aerospace facilities were really cool and as someone who has always had a passion for planes my inner aerospace nerd was jumping up and down with excitement.

Sadly, I have finally come to realization that my cooking skills are little to none. If anyone wants to teach me a few tricks and recipes in the kitchen this summer, I'm down.

I have also been sleeping a lot. It may be the time difference or my non-stop travel since finishing finals, but I'm enjoying my beauty rest. Mornings in Iowa are different than anything I've experienced before. The sun rises early and the sky is always blue. Must be a Midwestern thing!

Can't wait for the ropes course tomorrow!

Numero Uno

Posted on [May 29, 2014](#) by [Janae Hoyle](#)

So far my time in Iowa has been exciting! Yesterday we saw Howe Hall, our new homes, for the first time. Its a pretty neat building. There are cool research posters everywhere and grad students typing away at their computers. I already feel comfortable in VRAC and can't wait to start my project with Phillip and Jesse! We also had orientation and a bus tour of Ames yesterday. In orientation it was cool to see how what VRAC does and how our summer research could potentially help others using emerging technologies. Ames is such a cute little town and I can't wait to explore in my free time ☺

Today we're going on a technology tour of VRAC, meeting with our research teams, and getting our rec passes (yay gym time!)

Can't wait to see the C6!

