

# REU|2017

Summer Program for Interdisciplinary Research and Education – Emerging Interface Technologies (SPIRE – EIT)



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## Emma Dodoo



### — one last post : long —



Posted on August 5, 2017 by edodoo

It's August 5th guys. I am pulling an 'all-nighter' because my shuttle leaves at **5:45am**. Currently, the time is **1:32am** (lol). I don't want to sound generic but I feel the end of summer has come too quickly. It wasn't too long ago that I was boarding a plane from PA to IA... or so it seems.

Let's start with a quick run through as to what went down this week:

— **wee hours of today...but mostly yesterday (question mark)** —

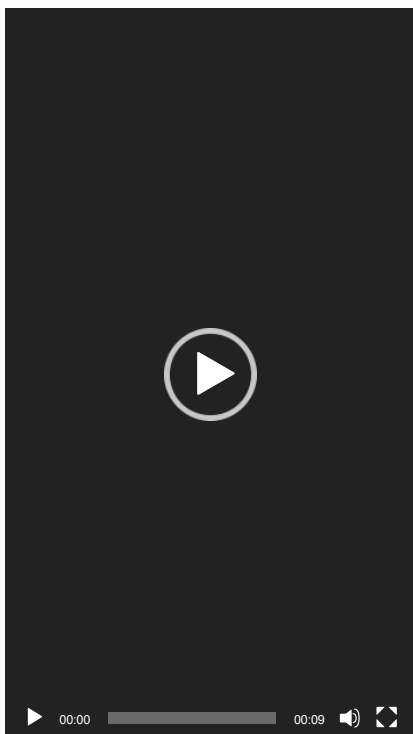
update\* I never got the vacuum cleaner. \*shrugs\*

1am: Scratch that. I think I just had our final...final...final goodbyes. It is so sad that I won't be seeing these amazing and beautiful people for a very long time. We need to have an #RE-Union soon.

10pm: Our last goodbyes were had in R3215/6 – only because everyone really wanted to clean up their rooms with Austin's vacuum.

6pm: Another goodbye with the gang at the park where we had our first REU lunch. Jameel and I had our final fight, the gang played some interesting football soccer, and we all just had a phenomenal time.

[IMG\\_1902](#)





@Sofia please text me this picture if you see this.

3pm: One last ride to Reliable St. to return the bikes. ):

12pm: I almost cried at "The Spice". We were given certificates, letters, and some cool project toys. Everybody was so nice. I am really going to miss the VRAC crew.

**Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to experience the research world. I remember coming in with no knowledge with my project, and leaving with a paper and poster full of it...and then some.**

11am: WE ARE DONE WITH WORK....FOREVER! (jk, I have school in 2 weeks).

#### — symposium thursday —

3pm: WE FINISHED OUR RESEARCH PAPER!

1pm: never have I ever...had to repeat myself so many times before today. The ability to explain to others what you have worked on the whole summer is a really difficult task. I never would have imagined explaining something would be so hard...but I learned so quickly. My team learned how to divide our explanations...and by 3pm, we were pros! #dryThroat #iNeedWater



#### — wednesday —

7:45pm: Ice skating! a huge fun flop!

6pm: Fancy Italian restaurant time. (gang really loves Italian food => mainly me...and the rest love the memes)

blog-time: The longest last full work day here in Ames. I can't say much...I'm still writing the paper. It's going a lot easier now...but it's still tricky.

signing out for the last time,  
-ed.

#ThatWasEasy (Thanks Jameel)

Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

## — #17 —

Posted on August 1, 2017 by edodoo

A quick recap to what's going on in Em's life:

#### — tuesday —

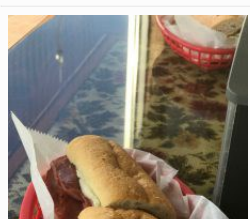
All day: I have my full attention on the research paper now that the poster is done. The paper needs to be completed in less than two days, and I keep getting 'writer's block' every time I attempt to start a new section of the paper. #SOSplease.

#### — monday —

11:22am: I finished our group's poster and sent it off. I'm excited Melynda said she liked it a lot. I'm excited that one of our 'deliverables' has been completed; only one more to go...which I'm working on right now.

6:15pm: The last 'outing' dinner with my roommates at Downtown Deli.

7:03pm: Wondered downtown for the last time, probably. ):



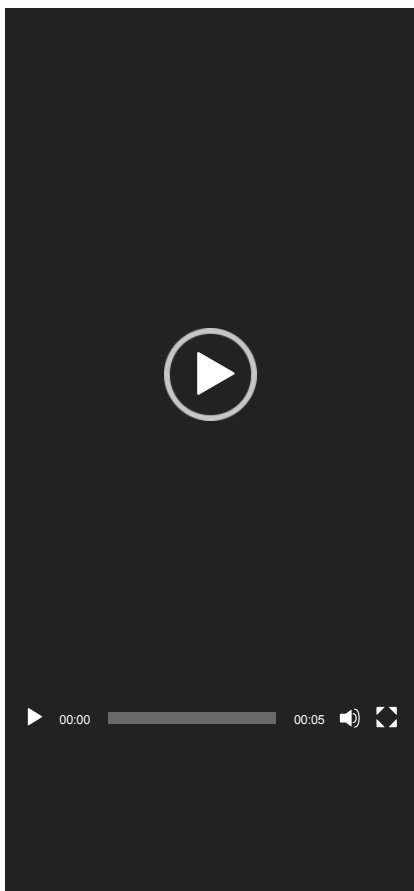


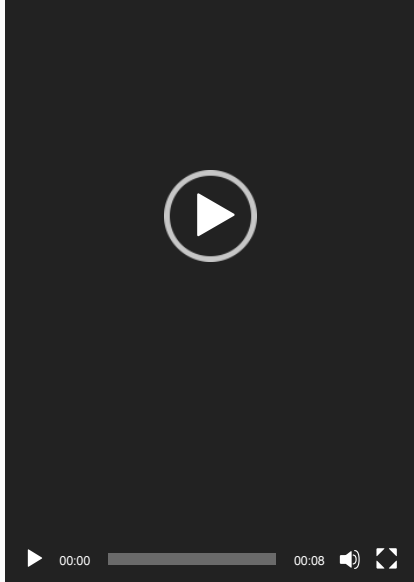
— sunday —

1:36pm: BELAY CERTIFIED #ThankYouAustin

2:45pm: Popeye's really filled me – it's perhaps the best meal I've had at here in IA.

6:10pm: The scenery from Grimes, IA to Ames, IA is fantastic.





-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | [Leave a reply](#)

## — # 16 —

2

Posted on July 28, 2017 by edodoo

It's our last work Friday here at ISU. The atmosphere has changed in the VRAC with everyone trying to finish their studies, code as well as their posters and papers that are due next week.

VRiM has made huge progress in terms of coding, creating the environment, working on interactions and the creation of the menu. The past couple of days have had me working on writing a script for an outline-highlight shader. 3 times it has refused to work successfully. We may have to scratch out highlighting objects with an outline due the lack of time.

Work has started pretty late today though. From 9 – 12, we were on the bridge getting interviewed. Everyone-Most came into work wearing business professional attire \*cough cough\*.

This weekend, we are going to be filming more stuff in very bizzare locations. I look forward to that!

That's all for now folks! I have to continue working on our paper.

-ed.

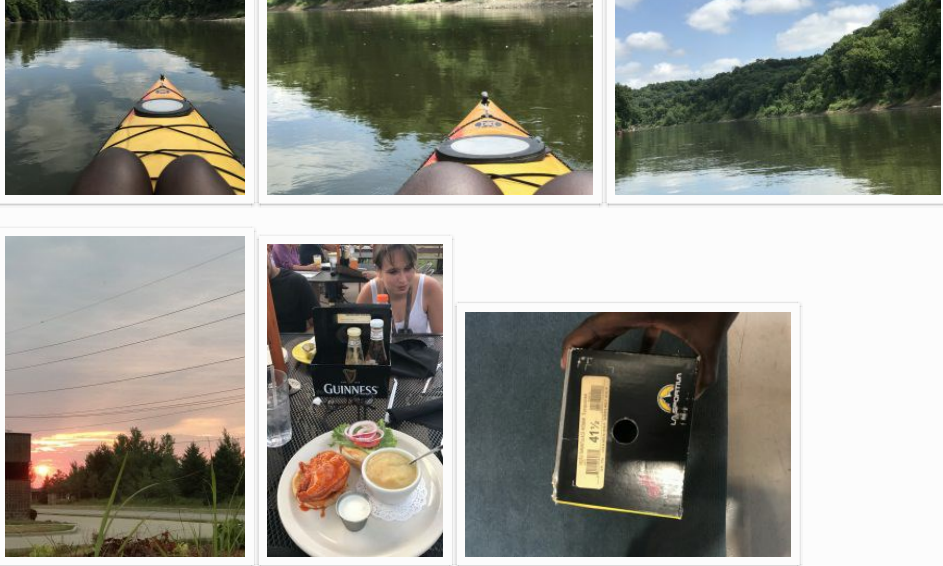
Posted in Uncategorized | [2 Replies](#)

## — what's been up?: photo blog —

Posted on July 25, 2017 by edodoo







Last weekend was well spent with awesome people doing phenomenal activities.

early saturday: From the first couple of pictures, a huge thanks to my iPhone, you can see gang kayaking. An activity I had never done before. It was scary at first only because there were fish and bugs...I'm thankful I didn't see any snakes! However, by the time we had reached midstream, everyone pulled their boats up onto the sand, walked a bit more upstream, and jumped into the river with the current pushing them back down.

late saturday: Coming back from Boone at around 5pm, it was time to go look for dinner. 50% of gang decided to go to the Irish Pub & Grill. We fed our hunger. It was a time well spent.

later saturday: I had to work on our group poster some more...and start drafting the methods section for our research paper. I had just found out that the paper is due on Friday. I was thinking it was due Monday. I'm glad I have a little more time to complete our poster draft. I was stressing out a lot!

sunday: Jordan Creek Mall is the best thing that has ever happened to me. It is the biggest mall that I have seen...here...in Iowa. They had an Apple Store! Although I was only there for some 30 minutes, I am not able to write how awesome I felt with being given the opportunity to walk into the best store in the world.

later Sunday: Went with Austin and Sush to REI and Climb Iowa to look at some shoes. This new sport takes up a lot of \$\$\$.

even later Sunday: Continued working on our poster. It's looking great, I think.

-ed.

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## — building and justifying —

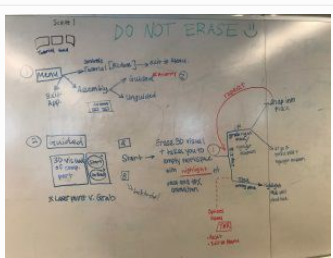
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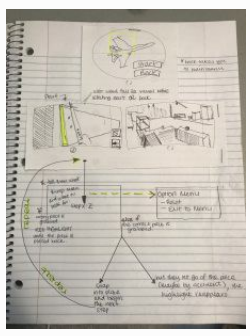
Posted on July 19, 2017 by edodoo

As I mentioned in my last post, I am justifying a lot of things which are crucial to our project. This week has been full blown researching.

For the past week (maybe two) I have been trying to find out why specific highlights and colors should be used. Today, around 1:30 (when I should have been writing this blog), I found an article that states why highlighting is important. Although you may be thinking, isn't this common sense? We are being trained to have information backing up every move/decision we make. Anyway, when I found the article...I sighed in relief. I can move on to new and better things now.

Monday and Tuesday had us working on storyboard-ing. We camp up with what we wanted our program to do...and how. I drew it out the next day. Here is what we are planning to work with:





We have to work on implementing sound, and placement of text before Friday. This means that there are more papers to read. fun L:

Austin and I started working on the Virtual Environment today. I'm happy that we're starting because I want to see where and how all this reading actually comes into play...it also gives me a chance to do another activity aside reading. Austin's teaching me some cool things in Unity so far... I'm looking forward to completion, and knowing him, we'll probably be done by tomorrow of Friday.

Good looks overall though.

-ed.

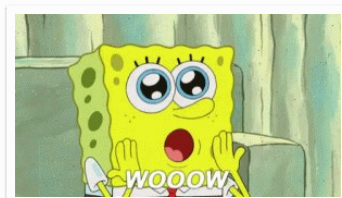
Posted in Uncategorized | 2 Replies

## — # 15 —

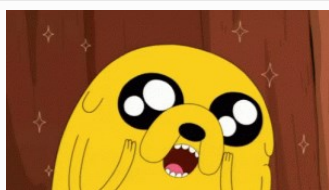
Posted on July 17, 2017 by edodoo

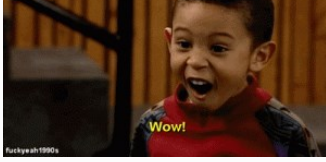
Previously Recently, on Em's life. Previously is crossed out because today, we're going to start with the most recent of events, and work our way down.

1:19pm: I am accidentally listening to the Hamilton Soundtrack/Mixtape. I was searching for "History Has Its Eyes on You – John Legend" on Apple Music, and now, I'm 4 songs deep in the mixtape. The songs I have listened to so far, are really great. What is happening?



WOAH! K'naan, Chance, Aloe Blacc, and Nas are on this too!?

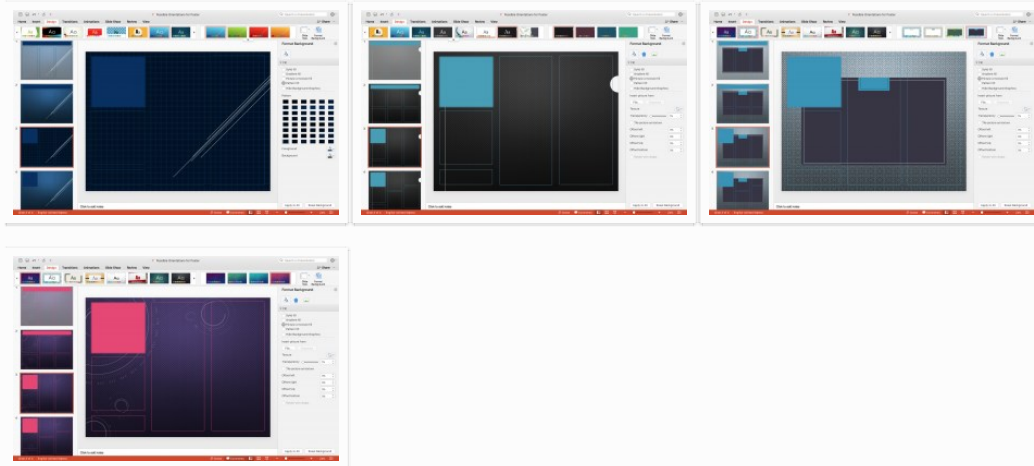




(History Has Its Eyes On You is finally playing btw => 7 songs in.)  
 ("Wrote My Way Out" and "Cabinet Battle 3" sound like they should belong in "In The Heights")  
 ("You'll Be Back" sounds like it should be in "Annie")

**12:15pm: DO NOT SPOIL GAME OF THRONES S07E01**

**10:33am:** Working on some ideas for our poster. So far, here is what I have come up with:



**9:20am:** Finding articles to justify why we want to use certain colors, animations, fonts, etc is proving to be a bit harder than I thought. There are so many papers out there, and its looking for the specifics that makes the work a bit tedious. VRiM has filled up 3 blank word pages justifying navigation, color, and other details we will be using to build our environment.

— **sunday** —

A dedicated 'clean up' and 'study' day. What more can I say?



*The Big 6 and a Cy.*

— **saturday** —

**6pm:** Girls Night was hosted by R3215.

**6:37pm:** With Austin(a) and Alfred(fre), we continued Girls Night at Hickory Park.... and had my "birthday" celebration.

**Fun Fact:** There were 6 birthdays being celebrated that day (including mine).

**#CY6?**

**9:45pm:** Leaving Hickory Park. Heading to the Apartments. Water balloon fights + Volleyball = Fun.

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 1 Reply

## — presentation (b) —

3

Posted on July 14, 2017 by edodoo

Another day, another presentation.

Up until yesterday, the "VRiM" group (VR in Manufacturing) has been trying to put their presentation slides together. What is the need for presentation slides you ask? Well, it was for our mid-project presentation conference with USC; by 'mid', I mean 7 weeks in.

**2:15pm:** After the handful of giggles from our side, and USC's, here was the order of events:

**Team: Nav**

Team: USC 1

**Team: VRiM**

Team: USC 2

**Team: TIMELI**

Team: USC 3 – PAL3

**Team: CoOL:SLICE**

\*bolded ones are ISU's projects\* \*underlined project is my group\*

VRiM did really well presenting, as did everyone else. I just know that I have to work on organizing my thoughts properly. Our team also had to organize who says what – just so we reduce the amount of times we have 'awkward silences' and sound 'unsure' of what we are working so hard on.

USC also had some pretty neat projects as well. Some of USC's projects were similar to ours as well. It surprises me with how many students are interested in going to grad school and earn Masters/PhD's, but it encourages me as well.

4:33pm: After our conference with USC, Vijay, Amy, and all the grad students who helped us with our Deeper Dive projects were surrounding the room in which we worked. Vijay then announced that the VRAC staff had prizes for the winners (C6 shaders). Devi, Chris, Sush and I received photo-frames which had pictures of Lancelot (or Elaine?), the MU pond, and the Bell Tower. It was beautiful. Then there was the consolation prize: paper clip-clappers. I am not exactly sure how to describe the moment that happened right after the packages were opened up... Let's just say everyone clapped away happily with the few minutes of work they had left.

5:15pm: Like I mentioned in the previous post, "what is a presentation day without the gang celebrating?". We all head downtown, except this time, we head to Mr. Burrito – they have phenomenal and SPICY food (and if you know me, it's the spiciness I always look for) – walking in the rain.

7:15pm: Thank God the rain had died down. Gang heads out to the cinema to watch Spiderman: Homecoming! I've heard the ratings are really good, so I am excited to go watch this movie. One thing I did not like was they way they introduce "Marvel Studios". I am used to seeing the comic strip coming to life, however this time, they just showed the Fantastic 4, and other superheros you're supposed mandated to know. There was also this song introduction or something like that. It was just something I was not expecting and I probably have to get used to the new 'intro' because I'm going to be seeing it again when we go watch Black Panther...

HOWEVER, the movie was phenomenal. Being a Marvel fan, you know I stayed in the theater until the ending credits so I could watch the "future trailers". For those of you who are yet to watch it, just stay till the end. You will laugh with anger. That is all I will say. (:

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 3 Replies

## — presentations (a) —

3

Posted on July 13, 2017 by edooo

I realized that I need to catch you up on what happened on Monday. I was looking through my phone and saw pictures of what I had done which triggered my memory.

### — to the throwbacks: monday —

11am: Deeper Dives projects have been going well. I finally got my project in Unity to work...well, I found my textures that were missing. But in doing so, I think I gave my laptop a hard time – it's heating up and the battery is being drained really quickly.

We have our Deeper Dives MCA presentations today, and we've been in the C6 room since 9am trying to get all 4 projects (Devi, Chris, Sush and me) to run. There are issues, but I'm telling everyone to think positively.

2pm: Vijay appears! What a surprise – he was supposed to be out of the office for 2 weeks. He came in and helped us fix all our C6 related problems. #bestfriend. Our group finally has everything working...



*It's always interesting to have people squatting just so they can see properly.*

half an hour after presentations were supposed to start.

3:45pm: The 3D Printing group presents, then Unity Immersive... we're up next (and I am still thinking about what I'm going to say) but our group steps up and we tell them about what we did, some of the problems were and what inspired us to do what we did. It was rather fun! ...We also get a hint from Vijay to talk about sprite images, so we speak briefly about that as well!

Everyone came up with some neat projects. I just wish I had tried Jameel's VRPrattle and Alfredo and Emanuel's zombie game.



*Vijay announcing the real winners after pulling the Steve Harvey*

4:15pm: The sytem restarted. Our C6 project isn't running.



4:37pm: OUR PROJECT RUNS! AND IT WAS AWESOME!

4:52pm: Voting time.

4:57pm: C6 Shaders actually win! after Vijay pulls a Steve Harvey (and a Moonlight)

5:15pm: What is a presentation day without the gang celebrating? So of course, we all head downtown to get some over-glorified bubble tea.

(:

-ed.





Posted in Uncategorized | 3 Replies

## — # 14 —



Posted on July 12, 2017 by edodoo

What a day, what a day! I caught myself jotting points on a napkin about what I was going to blog about. So much has happened.

11:15am: Our luncheon lecture with Eliot has been very different from the rest of the lectures we've had. Perhaps it was with how we were given to opportunity to ask him anything (of course, after he had given his background story). With our Panera sandwiches, we gladly asked him questions such as "how did your businesses start", "why did you want to become a professor", and other questions of the like. Then the conversation switched to how and why you should apply to grad school. It was an interesting switch.

This REU program has made me think about applying to grad school more. I know I want to go. My main reason is because I want to become a professor. I want to teach. It's what I love. What I don't know is WHAT I want to teach or what I want to study in grad school. That's the part that scares me – not having a direction. **(It would be nice to talk to someone who could help me plan out what happens after my undergraduate career, OR what I could do for my senior-year thesis).**

3:17pm: "If you could cure cancer by killing a certain number of people, would you do it?" My answer is still no but with some research, here's what I found out: ([READ HERE](#) – Both sides of the argument).

What I am trying to say here, is that Eliot taught us that just becomes some things are moral to you, doesn't necessarily get the work done. You need to think about all perspectives before you go on making decisions. I respect that, just as I did the Ethics class. I can't wait for Thursday's class!

6:20pm: Off to finish the VR in manufacturing slides for our presentations with USC! Wish us well

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

## — # 12 —



Posted on July 6, 2017 by edodoo

Back at it again with another blog post and boy, do I have a lot to say! (not really, lol). That just seemed like an appropriate way to catch your attention.

— **etiquette 101: thursday** —

11: almost-past-30am: The walk to the MU is one that I am still not used to; what I mean is that my body is not used to the humidity that lurks around in the air. The walk with gang, and the leader of our what-was-supposed-to-be-a-line-question-mark(?) helped me get my mind off of the heat.

post-MU-arrival: Stewart Burger, a phenomenal man, has finally explained why there is so much cutlery spread around a single persons plate during a fancy dinner, a banquet perhaps. Let's just say we have Catherine de' Medici and Spain to thank! Dr Burger explained the do's and don't's of eating at professional settings such as when to eat, what to do when you spill soup on the table, and writing thank you notes.

**Fun fact: Did you know writing notes entailed paper, pens, and an envelope?**

That's one point Dr. Burger wanted us to have engraved at the back of our minds. He said it's something to do with our generation?. I'm glad I had this etiquette lunch. I'm glad I have had family who have taught me how to eat at these type of settings...I am also glad that I had Sofia sitting next to me! We had a grand time eating, learning and laughing at Dr. Burger's jokes. What a man! My day was made by this lunch!

5:45pm: I came home wanting to cook some steak, only to realize the freezer had none. I had to order Jimmy John's. Oh, the tragedy! A Walmart trip is seriously needed. Maybe tomorrow?

— **sat, sun, mon, tues** —

No work. A blessed 4th of July. Breakfast. Uno. Sleep. Straight up chilling.

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 2 Replies

## — # 11 —



Posted on June 29, 2017 by edodoo

It's update Thursday!

— **(last) friday** —

5pm: Work went by pretty fast. The most memorable thing was perhaps going into our 'Deeper Dives' groups. I am working with the C6; it's a coding intensive project – I am grateful for my group members. We did 4+ hours worth of scripting today and Vijay (a mechanical engineer) was teaching us "Computer/Information Science" majors how to code

using unity. Aside the irony, he's awesome and very...VERY...patient.



7:33pm: En Route to Des Moines. Austin has hooked almost all of us on 'Saint Motel'. They are an awesome awesome band. I listen to their music when I bike to and from work now. Why am I telling you all of this? It's because gang got to see them at the Art's Festival in the city! It was great! I don't really do outside concerts with all the jumping, but Saint Motel really had be doing the whole 9 yards! At the end of the night, I ended up getting the drummer, Greg Erwin's autograph! (A complete accident though as Natalie and I were looking for kettle corn).

Some visuals: ([Please download the video](#))

1:23am: Finally in bed; cheers.



*some bomb Greek food  
that I found*

— art's festival saturday —

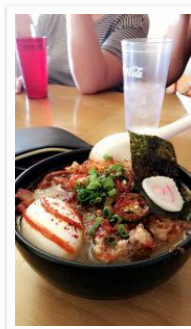
10:55am: We made it to Des Moines...again. This time, gang came to appreciate the art. Here are more visuals (in this it's easier to show you what I saw instead of write about it). s/o to my iPhone and Natalie:



*right before I dove into the  
Greek wrap*



*could selling cars be in the near future?*



*ramen. always. please.  
(also 4/10 in supposed  
spiciness).*



*like I said, I could go into selling cars eh?*



*about 60% of gang who found their way to  
the mural.*



*a HSM jump just had to be done in Des  
Moines.*

— sunday / monday / wednesday / thursday —

The work I did during the week has not really been blog-worthy...unfortunately.

— friday —

TBA later.

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 1 Reply

## — sweet caroline —

2

Posted on June 28, 2017 by edodoo

"Sweet Caroline

Good times never seemed so good

I'd be inclined

To believe they never would

But now I..."

You've seen the title, and now you know I will be talking about research.

Tuesday's team meeting was a success; the person who made sure of that was Austin. Our team had to defend why we wanted to use VR — I'm sure you remember me talking about this from my last blog or so. We had to use multiple references to convince Eliot that VR was the best choice for us to go with.

We have to work on our milestones now, and start looking at hardware. (more reading!)

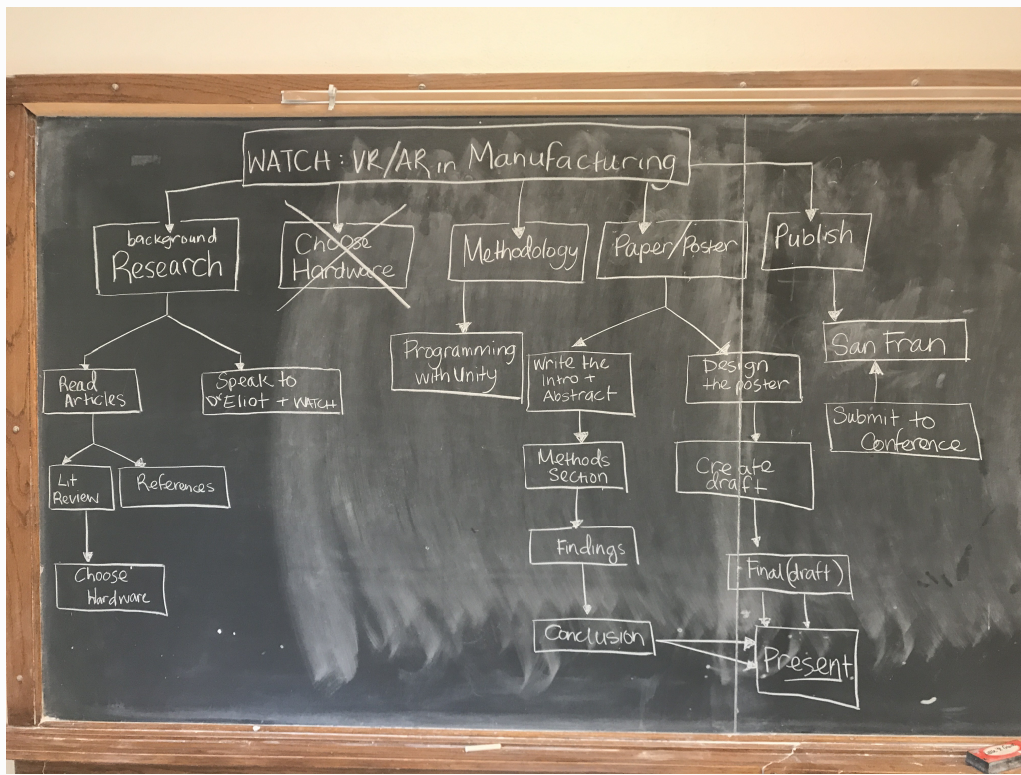
-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 2 Replies

## — a type of affinity —

2

Posted on June 26, 2017 by edodoo



As a group, the VR/AR manufacturing team has come together and decided that this diagram will be our goal for the summer. With mutual understanding, we had no problem working to agree with what is on the diagram. (:

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 2 Replies

## — #10 —

4

Posted on June 22, 2017 by edodoo

Recapping on a Thursday, who would've thought?

— last sunday —

About lunchtime: I really needed to get my bike from Reliable St. The night before, Alfredo, Emanuel and I planned to go get our bikes. There were some issues that happened in trying to collect our bikes that we had worked so hard for, a couple of weeks ago. They were:

(a) Alfredo had left earlier to get his bike without telling anyone



A photograph showing four bottles of beverages used as ingredients: Welch's Fruit Juice, Simply Orange, Crystal Light Cran Mango, and a bottle of Sprite. In the foreground, a white bowl with a green rim contains a pinkish-orange smoothie topped with fresh raspberries.

2

### [WATCH] Timeline

High 1-2 (Lil Review)

What we have spent the first five weeks doing:

- Lil reviewing papers
- Finding 'holes' in current research
- Understanding the scope of V&A (Advantages/Disadvantages)
- Learn the techniques behind effective reviews
- Identified general areas for problem area paragraph
- Learning the software (Mendeley, Zotero, C++, OR)

*Real 3-4 Research Session + Contributions of Lil Review*

- Decided what notes we took to present (either V&A or AB) -> Finalist product of choice
- Drafted our own problem area paragraph and hypothesis -> Continue to revise

*Real 6-7 (Abstract) Paragraph + MA Paper Presentation*

- Testing the hypothesis -> Begin drafting poster (drafting, analyzing, etc)
- More Programming -> Begin building a User
- Testing chosen hardware alongside the software
- "We should be able to present our findings due to (Our presentation)"

*Real 6-7 (Drafting Poster)*

- Start a draft paper -> Draft poster draft
- Continue programming -> Continue development

*Real 8-9 (Finalizing Everything)*

- Final Poster due -> Whether we receive should be finalized
- Finalizing paper -> Continue development

*Real 9-10 (Presentations)*

- Final research paper due

Aside the coding, and the constant help I will ALWAYS need (I need one of yous to be my tutor at home please), everything seems to be going well. No complaints whatsoever.



I hope I have successfully put into writing, what I am spending my time in Iowa doing. I hope this explains why I cannot always call back or return texts (on time).

Love,

-ed.

P.S My daily blogs are going to turn into weekly ones. But I will divide them into the respective days of the week. This is just because I have actual work to do now...and my time structure now is COMPLETELY different from the first 2 weeks.

(Daily/Weekly blogs heading format: — # X —)

P.P.S I will add one of these letter-type blogs every so often. This is so you learn more about how I am feeling, a sense as to what I am doing, etc.

(Informational blogs heading format: — some text —)

Posted in Uncategorized | 2 Replies

— # 9 —



Posted on June 17, 2017 by edodoo

It's F R I D A Y ! I finally have time this week to update you on everything. I have to check my phone for the pictures I have taken this week to jog my memory and help me write this particular post.

— groceries wednesday —

5pm: ISSA GYM DAY. I'm trying to get fit. I managed to do 5 laps around the track and 30 minutes of cycling. My legs are crying.

6pm: R3216 is really running low on groceries, cutlery, dishwashing soap... you name it. Right after work, Kate and I rushed downtown (and by rushed, I mean took the bus) to get everything had written down on our list. The list we had accidentally left on the fridge.

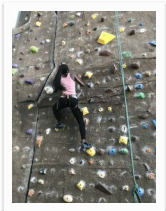
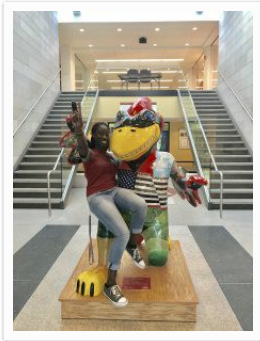
With not wanting to go back, we decided to 'wing it' and hit up CVS or Walmart and a few other stores that I cannot remember...and some bubble tea.

**\*\* Somehow, I have this picture on my phone. It is dated for Wednesday, but I don't remember the background story. but enjoy Me and Cy #4 though! (s/o to Kate and the stranger)**

7:42pm: The nose pads on my glasses fell off. Right after our downtown trip, I had to rush to "Pearle Vision", located on the other side of town so I could have my glasses fixed. s/o to them for being the only optician open past 7pm.

— rocks thursday —

5pm: The text message from Anna read: "Let's meet at the sate gym around 5". After reading this, I was feeling some type of way. First the heights at the ropes course, and now this!? Oh man.



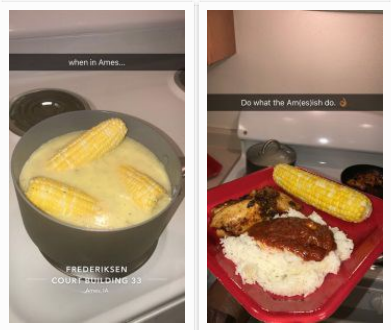
However...I wasn't as scared this time. Although I did fall maybe one too many. Please enjoy these pictures of me trying out a new sport that I am actually beginning to love!

&&&...

(Penn State's IM Building, after it's renovation in August, is going to have these rock walls! I am going to be going ALL the time now! It's quite exciting.)

— fibbage friday —

7pm: Your girl was starving and saw some corn in the fridge...Here is what happened:



My pun game strong (;

Very late o'clock: Most of gang went and played games in Alfredo, Austin and Sush's room. A good game of fibbage was played...a game that I definitely have to take back home with me! It so dumb that it made all of our nights. After the 9th round of fibbage, I really don't understand what happened. Sofia, Austin, Sush and Alfredo were climbing on top of each other, hiding fidget spinners (UNDRTHEKYBORD), let's just say the night turned weird really quickly... Then Alfredo decided to look for his phone in the crack of the couch. I'll just say he found a quarter amongst many other things.

Even later o'clock: WALMART TRIP FOR ICE CREAM!

— sleep saturday —

Gang decided to hit up the farmer's market really early on the morning, whilst I decided to catch up on some 'zzz's'. I sent Kate a list of things to get while she was the the market...and she returned with pots of herbs! It was really amusing! Natalie, and Kate also got me a little present! It was the best ever!

My afternoon, was mostly spent by cleaning the apartment, and facetime-ing family and friends.

As the day goes on, I will be writing a blog, finishing some homework, waiting for my sister's prom pictures...and joining gang at the barbecue later tonight.

Good day,

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

## — questions —



Posted on June 15, 2017 by edodoo

11am: For our luncheon lecture today, it was Dr. Kelly who gave a talk. When I had first heard he studied "psychology", it was hard for me to be interested, at first, because I thought I was more of a 'sociological' person. However, as he spoke about the research he did, I quickly became eager in wanting to know more about that particular study.

— questions —

- 1) How did you find a grad. program/school that fitted your technological interests and psychological interests as well?
- 2) Is there any reason (or research) as to why and how the SDK1 was better than the SDK2?
- 3) What do you plan to with the information you have obtained about distance perception, and navigation.
- 4) Could sociology be used in your study in any way?

5pm: We are supposed to go rock climbing. (lol) It's really hard for me to actually say this but I am really excited. Gang here has already seen me scream when we went for the ropes course last week. There's not much more that they can see from me when it comes to my fear of heights...I hope.

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | Leave a reply

## — # 8 + R E C A P —



Posted on June 14, 2017 by edodoo

If I thought I was busy before, it was a complete joke. By next week Tuesday, I need to have read about 10 papers and know a great load of VR and AR.

8am: RAIN; Waking up to a gray sky and windy weather has perhaps been one of the highlights here. (j'adore la pluie). Jumping out of bed, I hit up on my morning routine and left for Howe with my umbrella, backpack and all.

11:17am: I shan't compare my work to anyone else's. What I can say is that a difficulty has been overcome – Maya.



teamwork at its best.

— yesterday —

There will be no time stamps. Not much happened yesterday for a complete breakdown.



"Backyardigans".

Gang tried their 'artwork'. We light painted...Is that the word? But it was a fantastic experience, an awkward feeling, but to the left, are our results!

Another exiting bit of the day was when team WATCH (Brittney, Austin and I) finally figured out what the acronym stood for. I find it kind of ironic for how Dr.

Eliot has created an acronym for his team. On the first day, I recall him saying he didn't really like acronyms(?).

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 2 Replies

## — #7 —



Posted on June 12, 2017 by edodoo

Can someone please help me out with Maya? I don't think I can process things in 3D. I'm willing to make you dinner.

— to be updated later —

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 5 Replies



Wow, it has almost been a whole week since I have posted something. I apologize, but I have been very busy reading.



*the bane of our arguments and polls.*

#### — # 6 cont'd —

I think I've gotten Angelica hooked on TJ's bubble tea! A group of us went to get some tea. I would like to believe we used it as an excuse to 'cool down' after a whole hour of fighting over the color of shirts we are making. The fight was really ridiculous, and after finding common ground, polls were made on the GroupMe continuing what we thought we had left behind in the JB Conference room.



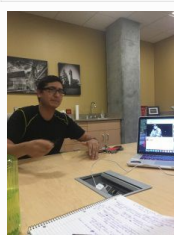
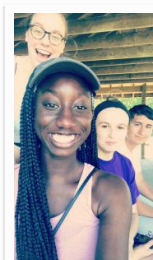
#### — ALFREDO DAY —

The future president of America had his birthday today.

#20&Turnt. We kind of held a party for him in his apartment. We got pizza and burritos and just played a handful of games! It was a great way to celebrate the start of the weekend.



**an Alfredo in his element:** UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T SHOW THE VIDEOS OF HIM. HERE ARE A FEW PICTURES.



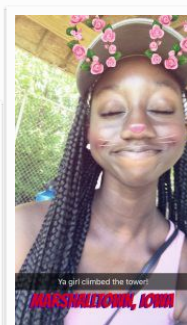
#### — ROPES COURSE => DEATH —

If you know me, then you know I am scared of heights. I love being on the ground and nowhere else... However here are some pictures from Saturday.

What I have learnt from Saturday is:

- 1) I trust my ~~cohort~~ family now.
- 2) I am **STILL** scared of heights
- 3) I am not **THAT** afraid of going out of my comfort zone
- 4) I will try new things
- 5) I am going to miss my family when I have to go back to PSU.

S/O to Chris, Sof, and snapchat for the pictures:



After the ropes course, gang went to Aldie's (THE BEST PLACE IN THE WORLD) and Walmart to stock up on food. As soon as we hit Freddy, people went right into cooking their dinners. R3216 made some stir fry & Sush's room had some wicked baked mac & cheese! Dinner was just poppin' all over the place.

-ed.

## — #6 —

1

Posted on June 8, 2017 by edodoo

I believe it's fair to say that I have read more papers this week than I have ever done in my life. Yes, this also includes the English and Literature classes I had to take throughout my high school career. (sorry, but not really).

7:42am: YIKES! I was supposed to be up 20 minutes ago. Due to the snooze blues I got hit with this morning, my routine had to be altered for the second time this week. The reason for this case of extra z's is probably because I found out there is an 8:45am bus that I can take to Howe instead of the 8:28am bus(es) that force me to wake up much earlier. \*shrugs\*.

12:33pm: Alfredo got on a beat, and killed it. (I'm stealing the picture from Brittney, once she posts it). s/o to her because that's what I do when the pictures are not really mine(?).

4:03pm: The internet on my phone still does not work. Times are hard. Anywho, is there anyone out there would please like to help me out with C++? I'll love you forever!

Signing out early today.

p.s. Gang has some good stuff being cooked up for the week of the 30th.

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 1 Reply

## — # 5 —

2

Posted on June 7, 2017 by edodoo

There will be no pictures today, although, I am sure gang took some pretty cool shots today. S/O to Paul.

5pm: The 9-5 time block was just filled with C++. I got a very confused today and may have to use the two hours I have tomorrow morning, to revisit and recode everything I did today. I know I cannot do much coding tonight. The fatigue has taken over.

6pm: GYM. GYM. Crash. Let's just say, I have set up a schedule to go on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

7pm: So if you didn't know this about me, my minor will be in Sociology. (I have 2 more classes to take). I enjoy talking, but more so, listening to people and hearing their perspectives on anything, really. Natalie blessed me with this opportunity. What we spoke about is confidential (; but she spoke straight facts and had me thinking about viewpoints I never would have thought twice on. #mindblown. But with all this praise I am giving my roommate, I also have to add how she tried to kill me at the gym. She had me doing workouts that I am just not fit for...yet. So being me, I decided to make her my personal trainer. I'm scared but excited for our next gym-day.

10pm: It's getting late, but it feels like I haven't done much work yet. Bummer. I sure do have to make use of the "free-time" I have tomorrow and be as productive as I can be.

My goal for the summer is to have more personal conversations with everyone. (It's an aim, alright?) ... and get my body toned... and to successfully do our group project and get a publication out.

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 2 Replies

## — #4 —

4

Posted on June 6, 2017 by edodoo

The atmosphere of the morning has been very calm. There was a 2-hour push towards the start of the work-day which has helped everyone's moods quite a bit.

7:15am: Waking up before my alarm usually annoys me, but it happened today, and I was totally fine. My morning routine began and I didn't forget my tea unlike yesterday.

Luncheon: Going to grad school in a **MUST** for me. Thank you Dr. Oliver for helping me confirm this. The questions I need to start asking now are:

1. *Which grad. school do I attend?*
2. *Who is my professor going to be?*
3. *Do/Should I start with a Masters, before getting a PhD?*
4. *Where do I want to be situated?*

This list goes on and on. (Not really). Dr. Oliver, also spoke about the different ways PhD students get paid to go to school. There are two main ways: Fellowships and Assistantship stipends (i.e. TA/RAs). A lot of information was obtained from this talk, and I'm glad to have received it because it is the type of information that's hidden or not spoken about much.

2pm: WATCH had a meeting today, or what felt more of an interrogation. The paper I was reading all of last week, and thought I had understood, did not do much to really save me. However, I am grateful for this meeting. I went into it thinking "Yes, I strongly know what's up" when Dr. Eliot, asked how we found the paper, to "I need to do more background searches". I was humbled real quick. All in all, Dr. Eliot said we had done a 'decent' job.



End-of-Work: The next hour was used to play games. I ended up





playing Gin Rummy and Codename. Both, interesting but played a bit differently than what I am used to.



6:23pm: Back to being exhausted. Back to reading papers.

— I'm going to the gym tomorrow! —

— Well, that's the plan —

— lol —

— help me pls —

I also have a free upgrade for bubble tea. I have to redeem this by tomorrow. If anyone wants to go with me, please lmk. (:

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 4 Replies

— # 3 —

8

Posted on June 5, 2017 by edodoo

We are already in week 2! I have started feeling the fatigue. Mind you, "work" hasn't actually started yet. That's a bit of a problem.

8:16am: I woke up late(r than normal) which forced me to rush my morning routine. I forgot to make my tea but at least I will make it to the bus stop on time.

Question: Tea or Coffee? What do my readers prefer? and why?

9:47am: This began the intro to C++; so far, so good. I just know that I have to translate what I know in Java to C++. It's going to take a little time and practice to do so which makes me think I am not as advanced as everyone else here. During our free time, a lot of people were already trying to mess around with loops and if-else statements, whereas I was still trying to get my IDE and compiler to work on my laptop.

12pm: Lunch vs. Grad-School talk. I picked lunch. More so for it being the only meal that's guaranteed and free. 7 or 8 people from gang made the same decision as I had while the others went to the talk. Hopefully the talk went well(?).

Post-UDCC: The lunch-gang went to the Muscle Beach of Howe Building and played around for a bit as we had finished lunch early and wanted to chill before coming back to work. Also, 30 mins before C++: 2 of the day.

5pm: My work day is over and it's time to satisfy this fatigue with sleep...the joke

s on me though because I still have a research paper to finish reading before tomorrow. I'm going to FT a few friends and complain. What's an Em without a load of complaints?

— To those reading, please just iM or FT me. Whatsapp/GroupMe/etc. do NOT work for me at this time —

6:18pm: Kate's awesome!



*My mum joining in on the corn puns.*

7pm: I've spent the last hour and a half lying outside; it was very productive! A whole research paper has been read, and understood! Maybe. The first C++ assignment has been completed as well!

Em's going to be sleeping early tonight! I hope you can hear, feel, and see my excitement.

p.s. My family is beginning to use corn-puns. idk how to feel. Here is example #1.

-ed



*K's getting me a bubble tea! What a surprise!*

Posted in Uncategorized | 8 Replies

— s u n d a y —

3

Posted on June 4, 2017 by edodoo

Today has been another fun-filled day, hence the post I'm **cooking up**. (This will be used later).

12pm: "Hard work = Neat bikes" this was the equation I learnt today. In order to get a free bike here in Ames, the VRAC REU group (aka gang) needed to do some volunteering at "Reliable St.". What Kate, Chris and I did was plant some raspberry bushes.

Everyone else had either finished their work, or were in the hot garage, baking while trying to fix up their bike. Unfortunately, the bike I had chosen has to be picked up later on in the week because it's tires are still flat. ): It's beautiful though; you'll see pictures of it soon.

2:23pm: Had to go to the mall to get some 90-degree-type-of clothes. I was unprepared for the heat up here. UN.PRE.PARED. There were some amazing pretzels that I got too! Because what is a trip to the mall without buying some sort of pretzel? Right after the mall, Kate and I headed up to Walmart to get some stuff for dinner. (I'm tired of going to Walmart just to get things for the kitchen. I'm used to having all the spices at home just chillin' in the cupboards).

4:15pm: Missed the bus, had to get a Lyft. Did you know there were only 2 people in Ames who worked for Lyft? #JamesFromAmes

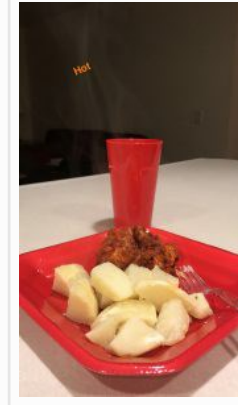


4:55pm: Picnic time! Other REU's were there but I feel like the "gang" is the closest. We played frisbee, ate some decent food, and played cards. 'Spoons', well, in our case, 'Forks', was the best game out of the many we played. We had people screaming and jumping right out of their seats!

S/o to Chris for this picture with us and Cy! Right now, we're at #3. I also think this was the most ratchet version of the mascot.  
\*shrugs\*

Sometime after the picnic: Sush' really wanted to have a water fight! I joined in on the fun – mainly because he had 'minions' balloons. I believe if anyone wants to get me to do something, their incentive has to be minions-related.

9:00pm: DINNER WAS A SUCCESS! I'll just show you the pictures... You can call me "Chef Em" right about now! I'm hot, just like the steam coming from the food. (;



NB: We start working with C++ tomorrow, I don't know how I feel about that. I hope it goes well. ./:

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 3 Replies

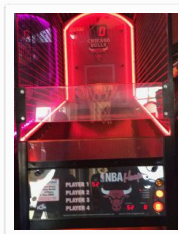
## — week ' n d —

2

Posted on June 3, 2017 by edodoo

This post is NOT mandatory. That's why it has no numbering to it. I'm beginning to like writing. We also did some great things today so that might be the real reason. It's up to you to read on, or not.

10:11am: This is my third time waking up (lol). I woke up the first time...and second...and third to messages on the GroupMe with people changing the times of when we had to get ready for "Perfect Games". This is the first weekend since I've been out of school that I haven't been able to sleep in. Yikes.



Blurry picture, I just realized. But this was of the 1st time I broke the original existing record of 31.

11am: We're at 'Perfect Games'. I attempted bowling. It was interesting. I would like to play again though and work on my game. I also played pool...for the second time. My friends back home would be proud of me for wanting to do it again. (If you want to know what happened to me the first time, come find me).

I played many other games too. Most memorable you ask? Basketball. I broke a record on that game. Then I broke my own record when I played it again.... and I broke my record's record AGAIN! I found my niche at the arcade! I was ecstatic, swear down.

post-Perfect Games: Went downtown to get Bubble Tea...and some new com-gear. One item was a cap! (; I sure do love my caps! I'm also trying to collect some decent ones whilst I'm here in Ames. I'm very **corn-tent** with this one. s/o to snapchat for the filter.

5:25pm: I am in VRAC attempting to read my first paper. It's not my ideal way to spend a weekend but it's my future. I guess its good I get a head start some time or the other. Right?

Back to reading. Peace.

9pm: Calling it a night in VRAC. I've reached the 4th page on this paper I'm reading. I hope I can finish it (with understanding) before Tuesday. I think it's time for some TV when I get back to Freddy.

-ed.

Posted in Uncategorized | 2 Replies

## — # 2 —

3

Posted on June 2, 2017 by edodoo

Friday started out really well! Ms. Amy had donuts out for us in the morning as it was Donut Day. I had no idea there was a specific day for donuts but I guess I have to start assuming everything people eat, drink and use has it's own day. \*shrugs\*

9:45am: After taking the Myers Briggs test for the umpteenth time, I found out that I am now an ISTJ. A couple of months ago I was an INFP – I guess the only thing that's stayed the same is the "I"... but it's okay. I'm glad to see that I am changing. Also, ISTJ's

description suits me way better than what INFP had to say about me.

10:32am: I am in love with VR/AR. It's official. We had a technology tour of what happens here in the VRAC, and got to use some pretty wicked gadgets. (yes, I used the word gadget). The Samsung HMD, and the C6 made me motion sick – I didn't like the feeling that much. Everything else, however, was amazing. I want the Oculus...or the Painting thing for my birthday. (Christmas works too).

— with this being said, I feel a little better with my research project now. I still have a lot to learn though —



12:15pm: Lunch at the UDCC again. I am trying to count all the cardinals that this campus has and take pictures with/of them. So far, we're at #1. Shoutout to Austin for taking this picture of Brittney, Sophia and me.

Art Walk Time: Honestly, I don't think we got to see as much art as we wanted. We got down to 5th Street and after we nicely got kicked out of the outside-paino center, we walked into the music store and I swear everyone's inner Beethoven came up to life. It was really cool that everyone knew how to play an instrument. (I wish I knew how to play one \*sobs\*). Straight after the music shop, the group was on a quest for food...but because we're college student, I'll clarify a bit more...pizza. We actually did find a spot for pizza shortly afterwards and ordered 3. Tell me why the total was \$60? It's whatever though. The toppings we got were mad crazy. I had never heard of a "taco" pizza before so that's what we got as a group. That and pepperoni, and a thick-crust buffalo Idaho-supreme. I give the spot a 6.5/10 though, I've had much better pizza. It was an alright experience

though.

Just chilling with everyone today was amazing, and I've enjoyed myself yet again.

G'night.

p.s we saw another cardinal. We're at #2. Thank you Sush' for the picture!

-ed.



Posted in Uncategorized | 3 Replies

— # 1 —

1

Posted on June 1, 2017 by edodoo

It's 9:45am. We should be blogging. I don't know what to say yet.



— yesterday —

Somewhere before 11am: We went on a tour of IA State, at least half of it. It's real nice and reminded me of PSU a little – especially with all the construction going on. We played frisbee too and I learnt some mad skills that I am really proud of!

12pm: Lunch was phenomenal at UDCC. I even went for seconds and tried "**buk choy**" for the first time. It was really interesting blend between spinach and celery, but I would do it again.

After work: Kate and I went downtown looking for bubble tea (my favorite). To cut 3 hours into a couple of lines we got lost trying to look for uni-mart, saw a snake (to which I screamed), and made a number of wrong turns downtown. However, **I GOT MY BUBBLE TEA!** We also saw some "**corny**" t-shirts. (;



— today —

The 1st day of June was another one filled with a lot of information. Goodness gracious! I'm not going to talk about what's on our calendar so how about:

After work: Guess who went downtown again? Kate, Devi, Jameel, Emanuel and Chris were with me too. You want to guess what we got? **Bubble Tea!** We then went to the comic book store and just had an awesome hour of chill time...you can honestly see through the pictures:



After downtown: Room 3216 tried to make dinner. We are alive...**surprisingly**.

We're thinking of ordering out tonight. We have to go to Walmart because  
SOMEONE tried making pasta without salt...and cutlery...and bowls. We're jokes tonight.

also, I'm done with pictures for now! \*sorry\*

**-ed.**

Posted in Uncategorized | 1 Reply