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Inside Research: An interview with Quinn Lambert

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INSIDE RESEARCH:

An interview with Quinn Lambert

Tell us about your Spring 2017 Scholars Week presentation (1:03)

How did you get involved with research with Dr. Rife? (1:51)

Has having this research mentor positively impacted your campus involvement? (2:45)

Tell us about your previous presentation experiences (3:49)

How have you developed on your in-progress presentation from the Fall 2016 Scholars Week? (4:21)

How do you prepare for your presentations? (4:50)

Can you give us an “elevator pitch” for your Scholars Week presentation? (5:21)

How do you quantify this type of research? (7:02)

Using the Chicago Face Database (8:07)

How did you first learn about the database? (9:28)

Can you talk about the existing research that informed the project you created? (9:40)

Tell us your plans for your Honors Thesis (11:56)

How do you plan on tackling your thesis? (12:38)

What are your plans for after graduation? (13:39)

This fall, Quinn began his work on Honors thesis, which he spoke about in his interview. Here is an overview of what he found out through his thesis research:

Can you give us a run-down of your Honors thesis topic?

My Honors thesis topic is mental health stigma in the US and Spanish-speaking countries. Basically, I wanted to see if peoples' attitudes towards individuals with mental health disorders were different between these two populations.

How did your ideas for your thesis change over time ?

My thesis has definitely gone through some changes. Initially, I wanted to be able to compare just two countries; say, for example, the US and Argentina. This would be a nice, clean comparison of two distinct cultures. However, my advisor and I both knew that the likelihood of getting enough data from one country was unlikely, considering we collected the data online and neither of us had any contacts in these countries to help us out. So, we decided we would try to get information from all Spanish-speaking countries, meaning we would be comparing the US with countries from South America, North America, Europe, Africa, etc. I wasn't too thrilled about this, since it meant we would be comparing one culture with a mixture of several, but I was more concerned with not getting enough data. I am happy to report, though, that we were able to get all of our necessary data solely from South America, and about 73% all from one country, meaning it turned out more like I hoped it would initially. I'm very excited to be able to present this at Scholars Week!

How has your previous research experience influenced the way you approached your Honors thesis?

I am very thankful for the Psychology department and the strong research background it has given me. While still a tremendous challenge, the Honors thesis was somewhat less intimidating for me, I think, because I already knew how to approach research in the field of psychology. This allowed me to focus more on perfecting the project itself as opposed to learning how to, say, complete a literature review, fill out an IRB application, analyze data, etc.