

Lacking Knowledge

Weekly Report 10/30/17 to 11/5/17

During this week, I did not learn as much information on my topic as I had expected to learn at the beginning of the week. I found myself having trouble being able to schedule interviews due to various schedule conflicts as well as certain professionals only being able to meet on certain days on a later week. Due to this, I even had to resort to writing a research assessment rather than an interview assessment as previously planned. For the research assessment I read articles about CAM (computer aided manufacturing) path generation which could both be related to rapid prototyping as well as CNC machines. The process for CAM as described in the articles was nearly identical except for the fact that RP involved additive manufacturing while CNC machining involved subtractive manufacturing. Through these articles I learned of many similarities between the two subsets of mechanical engineering but I did not learn as much about the topic than if I had met with a professional working in the field. I found that regressing back to reading articles from the internet on a computer screen was much more bland and less interesting than talking with someone in the real world. In future weeks I will be sure to meet with more professionals working in the field through interviews while also asking questions which will be sure to guide me toward ideas for an original work idea. With the nearing of the end of marching band season, my schedule has been significantly freed up, reducing the amount of schedule conflicts when scheduling interviews.