

The past 2 weeks have been really enjoyable and allowed me to see how KEYS helps me capitalize on my interest in research. In the past week, during my lab meetings and learning more about my project this summer sparked my enthusiasm and kept my interest in bioinformatics going after a tiring training week. Learning more about my project during meetings with my PI and knowing that I'll gain experience in applying my interests has excited me for the coming weeks in my lab and continuing my research. Although the past week has been somewhat difficult, the amount of new information I gained only sparks my enthusiasm for research. Using the HPC system this week to run scripts and gather data, has piqued my interest in continuing to work with large amounts of data and performing analyses. The first two weeks in KEYS have interested me more in participating in research and gaining experience in data science and bioinformatics.

The past two weeks have also raised some concerns in how I will be able to keep up with all the work. I am slightly concerned I won't be able to properly do everything my lab assigns. My PI did assure me that I can come to him or any of the lab staff for help but I think I still may be worried about having the skills and knowledge to complete everything I'm given to do. I am just worried that I might be underqualified to handle everything my lab gives me but my hope is that I can learn these things as time goes. I think this concern is also tied to my concern of not being able to produce results by the end of the program. I am afraid that I won't be able to have anything to present. I don't understand fully understand what my research question/hypothesis is. I am not sure if I just haven't been told that specifically yet or if I do know it and just don't know that I know it. I hope this is just temporary because this is just the beginning of the program and I will figure this out by the time presenting comes around.

I have a question regarding the role of our specific crew member. Is our crew member there for us if we have questions about handling our research as well as if we have trouble keeping up? Also, should we start writing our final presentation now or wait until we have everything in our research done? For KEYS assignments, if we don't know or have some of the info they ask, should we ask our PI?