

1. What are the research objectives of the Expressive Computation Lab? How is research in the lab conducted?

The Expressive Computation Lab was a very eye-opening experience. It taught me so much about research as far as the department and the functionality of the lab. The main objective for the Expressive Computation Lab was to create products for their projected consumers. The researchers work for hours and hours everyday and they do several different things to benefit the company. For example, they research and help contribute to system interfaces and technologies for people to use in the art and modeling industry. The art and modeling field is one of the biggest fields in the world, so there is a big target area for consumers. An example of how the researchers contribute is that they have worked on the brush packages which can help one envision a future model or piece of art. The researchers have developed this through software and hardware development. The researchers also want to know how artists can contribute to the software as well. They intend to see how professionals can also enhance or strengthen their product and they conduct interviews to get as much information out of them about what an artist would want from the product. In the lab, researchers conduct research daily(excluding current Covid-19 situation)and different departments work on different tasks. For example, some researchers will work on software and hardware development for their products to fix any existing problems or to further enhance existing products. Other researchers work on more big picture things. For example, our speaker works on management and qualitative research. This qualitative research consists of interviews, writing for conferences, meetings, etc. As a whole, this lab was a great opportunity to learn and it taught me a lot about the Expressive Computation Lab and research as a whole.