

## Confidential Check-In Reflection

I am never quite sure how to start reflections, hence my reliance on commenting on this as a way to start, and it is harder than usual this time. A large part of this comes from how up in the air this practicum has felt for me thus far. I do not mean this in a negative way either, but it has been a little hard to know exactly is expected of me. This is not really surprising as I am not sure Barbara or Elizabeth really had concrete ideas in place for what role they were hoping for me to fill after the Bio 152 rug was pulled out from under them. They have done a good job finding me other classes to observe and help out with, but it always feels a little bit last second and not totally settled. Slowly we do seem to be coming to an equilibrium and at the very least this has been good experience in how to deal with unexpected decisions which have a great impact on one's job and role and that one can do absolutely nothing about.

One thing the last minute change in the placement's role has allowed me to do, for which I am very grateful, is to have more time to focus on outside of the library instruction session projects. I did finally talk to Travis and receive his approval to put together a library subject guide for mathematics aimed at interested undergraduates. I am thinking about the things I really wish I would have had pointed out to me when I was a young mathematical enthusiast. I am also putting together a workshop for librarians who were doing multimedia instruction on the basics of audio recording and editing. Clearly I am a big fan of the teach what you know idea.

Both of these projects are forcing me to think about very different teaching approaches than what I used to use in the mathematics classroom. For the workshop I am learning about how to really chose what the most important takeaways are as it is a one shot and I am much more used to having an entire semester's worth of classes. For the subject guide it is how to not just make a list of links to things and instead embed instruction so the people who come upon the subject guide will leave not just with links to books, articles, and databases but instead know how to leverage the tools of the library to continue past what is in the guide and start discovering new mathematical things on their own. Thankfully Barbara and Elizabeth have both been very active in helping me think about these things, and with their help I am hopeful about how the projects will turn out.