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Honors Program  

Post Enrichment Report  

At the American Geophysical Union conference, I was able to share my undergraduate research and explore various fields of interest. The first day of the conference, December 11th, was the day of my poster presentation. The conference center in New Orleans was one of the largest convention centers I have been to. By navigating the convention center, I was able to meet fellow poster presenters. Through the process of locating the designated hallway, I was able to begin networking with upcoming researchers. During my poster presentation, I was able to meet researchers that once worked with the Kreidenweis group. I was able to gain further information about the data they had produce while working at Colorado State University.  

The two remaining days I had at the American Geophysical Union conference involved attending poster sessions, oral presentations and panels. Dan Rather was a guest speaker at the conference. Before the conference, entering the realm of science communication was one of my interest. During Rather’s speech, I was deeply inspired to follow my interest. He highlighted the importance of environmental communication in this political era, which led to a realization that I could become a part of a pivotal field. Afterwards I attended oral presentations and poster sessions that surrounding science communication and policy. These sessions informed me of research ranging from natural disaster notifications to the changes to federal websites such as the Environmental Protection Agency. The oral presentations educated me about the current research as well as the need for further data and analysis to be done. Specifically, a science communication presentation highlighted the need for further studies. The presentation was analyzing the level of trust between non-scientists and scientists on social media. The data was collected by analyzing
posts through a computer program. There was an apparent need for more variables to be added in order to increase the trust and reliability of the program. Before this presentation I was not aware of the use of computer programs for science communication research. The American Geophysical Union conference educated me about the importance and current research with science communication. Overall, my experience has helped inform me on relevant research and encouraged me to pursue my interest in science communication.