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# Predictive habitat modeling for a population assessment of a globally threatened seabird, the DeFilippi's petrel

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## **Summer Research Symposium Summary and Reaction**

Emily Landeck

The symposium was a lot more relaxed and easy to do than I was expecting. Before hand I was very nervous about talking to people about my project. In particular I was very worried about professors asking me questions that I was either not sure of the answer to, or that confused me too much to be able to make a sensible answer.

In general I felt that everything went very well. I felt very comfortable talking to people and no question came up that I wasn't able to answer, which felt very good. In addition, I talked to some people who seemed very enthralled in what I was really doing and were even more excited about the possibility of continuing the research with Peter Hodum as a mentor. Some of the students I spoke with were either current or past students of Peter's and one girl in particular, who is a current student in his ecology class, was very extremely interested in seabirds in general. I spoke with her, as well as a couple other current students, about the prospect of continuing this research and expanding the knowledge about this bird. I mentioned to each person I talked to that this research is just the beginning of what needs to be a long term monitoring process on this threatened seabird and this seemed to spark a lot of interest. This was cool because it seemed like something that could really catch even someone not very interested in seabirds to start with because of the prospect of influencing a large policy decision form the IUCN red list.

Overall, I enjoyed talking to the students the most, as I had expected, because I felt like they were the ones with the real potential to carry on this project or even just similar ones. In addition, I felt that just speaking with students about the

process of summer research and even encouraging them to sign up for the stipend grant writing class was really beneficial for them. It seemed like every student I talked to was genuinely interested in what summer research is like, and a few I talked to seemed very determined to actually carry out that interest. I felt like the information I could give them on the grant class as well as my own experience with research was very useful for them and again that felt very good to be able to be someone with advice for fellow students.

From this presentation I feel that I learned how to give a short summary of my research without boring the listener while still keeping it simple enough for them to understand. Also, I thought that I was able to really reflect on my research in a new way by explaining it to other people in a simplified version and I believe this reflection will help to write my thesis on this research this upcoming semester.

I thought the symposium was a huge success and I felt that overall the whole event went very smoothly. In addition, I felt very accomplished when talking to others about my research and it made me very excited to keep analyzing data and finding new things about my research throughout this upcoming semester.