

LeAnn Ward

My visit to the Mississippi Academy of Sciences conference in Biloxi, MS was my first opportunity to present the research I have been working on this year.

It was really great to see the kind of interest that my project attracted because I didn't expect people from biological and computer sciences to take as much of an interest as bioengineers would. Explaining my projects to more critical ears was valuable for me to see what new questions I needed to answer and what directions I had not considered.

Furthermore, the talks given from other scientists were also an interesting perspective. Mentorship was the major theme of the conference, and it was unsurprising that mentorship in research has such an impact on who is able to become successful in their fields. The importance of guidance from those who are knowledgeable in their fields was probably the biggest take away for me.