

Weekly report 10
10/22-10/28

A Better Project

This week in ISM was not an easy one as finding a good original work project has been a challenge. More Thinking had to be done regarding original work as the first idea did not come into fruition. After the proposals were submitted last week, the week the entire project and focus for the year were both rethought out. This was difficult because the field of service dog training is small, but in order to be successful, I had to think outside the box to come up with something that would have an impact on the community.

The focus for the year was going to be about matching dogs with owners as this is not something that has been done in the past. This, however, is not something that can be easily experimented unless puppies were used who have not had any training, because if dogs who have had training were used the results could be incorrect regarding which breeds would be the best for each type of disability (mobility or emotional support). This is not practical for an original work project as it would require sources that I would not have access too, and would not find applicable information that would be helpful to my topic.

After thinking more about something that could have more of an impact on the community, which would be to start a nonprofit that where dogs would be brought to children's hospitals to comfort long-term patients. Although there are programs that bring therapy dogs to hospitals this is something that has a focus on high school students participating. Starting this nonprofit would be able to aid in the future because it is something that was created in order to help people which is the ultimate goal from this entire experience.

Overall, this week has made me think about what work I should be doing in order to help the most people while still creating something that is applicable to ISM, relevant to service dog training, and would help me in the future get involved with more people in the community.