

Southeastern Society of Parasitologists Annual Meeting
April 6-8, 2016
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At the SSP conference, I presented my undergraduate thesis research on different microscopy methods for visualization of Rickettsial infection. This research was overseen by Dr. Andrea Varela-Stokes of the Department of Basic Sciences at the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine. Because this presentation was prior to my final thesis defense, I used feedback from the other conference attendees to prepare for questions during the defense process. I got a chance to speak directly with both keynote speakers for the conference, Drs. Vanessa Ezenwa and Steven Williams, about the different realms of research that they work in, and I also learned about an unconventional post-graduate opportunity following a presentation by an NOAA Knauss fellow. Overall, the conference provided me with a great deal of insight into the vast field of parasitology as a potential area of future work, and I came home with a idea of how to better present my research.