

## **Kayln Chapman: 2020 Research Award Entry Essay**

For this research paper, my main goal was to discuss and challenge the idea that operating sustainably is costly for businesses and instead argue that sustainability is an investment in the wake of climate change. In order to argue that sustainability is not a cost, but an investment, I used the U.S. marine fishing industry and Pacific Bluefin tuna as a case study. To do this, I needed access to ample research tools, data, and past research focused around my topic, as well as formatting guides that would help organize my paper in the most cohesive way possible. My plan for this paper began with my literature review, which consisted of the longest portion of my thesis. To complete this, I used a wide range of the databases available on the library's research site to find sources discussing the sub-topics I wanted to discuss in my paper. As I continued researching I would sometimes find that little research was available concerning certain sub-topics. Thus, working around these challenges, my paper began to transform and shift to discuss more relevant research and arguments that were currently in the field. Doing this, allowed for my paper to become more robust and include areas of discussion that I had not initially thought about. As I continued writing my literature review I found that I was beginning to have too many sub-topics as I discovered several sub-areas that I found to be interesting. However, for the sake of length, relevance, and efficiency I had to narrow down the most important topics that I would include in my final paper. Continuing on in my paper, I moved to my methods, data, and analysis section where I used data found through some of the library databases. Challenges arriving here include finding the most relevant data to complement my analysis and answer my hypothesis. To overcome this challenge, I sought help from Luke Villele, a librarian with expertise in the economic department, in order to find some physical data resources within the library itself, find the data I was seeking, and to get a better understanding of the process of my analysis and formatting this section of my paper. These resources helped the final sections of my research come together in a concise, organized, and informative manner that otherwise may have had some problem areas yet to be settled. Overall, I am more proud of this paper than any other piece of work I have done in the past. The help and resources available through the library helped shape my paper into the final outcome I have today, which does not look like my original plan for this project. In facing the challenges and uncertainty that comes with writing any big research paper, the resources available to me guided my paper into becoming a well-rounded and informative project that tackles many different views in the literature review, and answers a hypothesis in the end analysis, while challenging an idea that many believe to be true.