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Some scientists toil and struggle their entire careers to obtain the singular honor of having their research findings officially published for their peers to read and review; now imagine that you're a college student who has managed to achieve that distinction at a mere 23 years of age.

Sounds like someone has a bright future ahead of them.

**During his Meteorology 124 class this semester at Suffolk Community College, Santalucia said that his teacher, Scott Mandia, doled out an assignment that would end up having quite an impact upon his blossoming college career.**

“What we had to do was go onto a website called ‘Skeptical Science’ and go over a list of climate change myths, from the most prevalent to the most obscure,” he said. “We had to pick one of those topics, do research, and put together a paper either backing our chosen myth or refuting it.”

The paper that he ended up writing, entitled ‘Hurricanes Aren’t Linked To Global Warming,’ deals with the myth that climate change and hurricanes are not related; Santalucia successfully debunked that assertion after a great deal of research and hard work, he said.

“I found that, in accordance with the myth, rising temperatures around the globe are causing warmer oceans, which fuel these hurricanes...so, as the planet warms, we’ll get more hurricanes and they’ll be stronger because of the energy that they pick up from the warmer waters,” he said.