

Evaluation Documentation:

At the SCOR meeting on capacity building, an important topic for discussion was evaluation. Many programs use different types of evaluation to achieve an understanding of the outcomes of their efforts. As part of the discussion, selected participants agreed to send for the report forms or surveys they use for evaluation of their programs.

This survey is from a 10 week undergraduate research internship supported by the US National Science Foundation. There are four parts to this survey; the first three are administered by the program staff and completed in writing, the fourth by an external evaluator through an interview.

1. The initial survey (first three pages) is conducted at the start of the program and assesses attitudes, self-assessment of topical knowledge, and expectations;
2. The midpoint survey (2 pages) provides feedback on the experience to date and allows identification of problems and correction during the course of the internship;
3. Part 1 of the final survey (3 pages) addresses the knowledge gained and initial information on the success.
4. Part 2 of the final survey (1 page) is done verbally and is meant to collect information independent from the program staff, through an external reviewer.

Orientation Session Survey

The first few days of this program are an opportunity for sharing information -- not only for us to “orient” you to the program and your new surroundings, but also for you to let us know something about your expectations for the program and what your first impressions are. Please take a moment to reflect and write your responses to the following questions:

1. Why did you decide to apply for the REU program? Please check all that are relevant to you. Then put a “1” next to the most important factor.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> previous REU student recommended it to me | <input type="checkbox"/> gain exposure to research environment at XXXX |
| <input type="checkbox"/> was encouraged by my College Professor | <input type="checkbox"/> get experience in a marine science research laboratory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> was encouraged by a Graduate Student | <input type="checkbox"/> the chance to explore possible research careers in marine science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> got motivated in classes at my college | <input type="checkbox"/> other (please explain) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> my friend(s) were applying | <input type="checkbox"/> was encouraged by the REU program staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> be with others interested in marine science research | |

2. Please list the area(s) of marine science you are interested in now.

3. How would you describe your understanding of the work you will be doing this summer?

- ☐ I know exactly what I will be working on.
☐ I have a fairly good sense of what I will be working on.
☐ I have just slightly more than a vague notion of what I will be working on.
☐ I have no clear idea of what I will be working on.

4. How would you rate your current level of knowledge about the area of research you will be working on this summer?

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Research Topic: | <input type="checkbox"/> High | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> Low | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| Research Tools/Methods: | <input type="checkbox"/> High | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> Low | <input type="checkbox"/> None |

(elaborate, if desired): _____

5. What do you expect to learn from your research project experience?

6. What else do you want to get out of your participation in this program?

7. Do you have any apprehensions or concerns about the next ten weeks? (Everyone has them, so don't be shy about articulating what you are feeling at this point.)

8. What suggestions or recommendations could you offer for improving any aspect of the program you have experienced thus far?

9. How do you expect this program to impact your schooling or career in the future?

10. What is the highest degree you think you'd like to pursue and in what field?

Degree:

- ☐ Not sure yet
☐ Bachelor's degree
☐ Master's degree
☐ Professional degree (for example: teaching credential, nursing, law, medicine, veterinarian science) (specify) _____
☐ Ph. D/Doctorate degree
☐ Other (please specify) _____

Field:

- ☐ Not sure yet
☐ (List field) _____

11. We'd like to learn more about your interests and educational plans. Please circle the number that is closest to how you feel now.

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. I like marine science, but have strong doubts about whether a research career in the field is for me. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| b. I am aware of the range of research careers available to me in the field of marine science. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| c. I understand what is required to pursue a graduate degree at a university. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| d. I have already decided to pursue a marine science-related graduate program. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| e. I need help preparing to apply to a graduate program. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| f. As a result of participating in the REU program, I am more likely to choose a science career in marine research. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| g. The experience I have with the REU program will benefit my future career. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| h. I'm not sure I feel confident working in a research laboratory. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| i. I'm not sure I feel confident presenting scientific information to other scientists. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| j. I am confident that I would like to do research in marine science. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| k. I am interested in going to graduate school to pursue research in marine science. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| l. I am interested in presenting research at a scientific conference or symposium. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |

Please return completed questionnaires to
XXXXXXX

Summer 2010 Research Experience for Undergraduates

Mid-Point Evaluation

This mid-point evaluation survey asks you to reflect on your experiences over the past 4-5 weeks and share your thoughts on the quality of the research internship program – strengths, weaknesses, and any alterations you think we should consider to improve the program.

1. At this point, how comfortable are you with the scope of the research project you are pursuing?

- ☐ It seems overly ambitious, too complex, or too much work for the time period.
☐ Not challenging enough; I could be doing more.
☐ Just about right.

Please elaborate: _____

2. How would you rate your current level of knowledge about the area of research you are working on?

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Research Topic: | <input type="checkbox"/> High | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> Low |
| Research Tools/Methods: | <input type="checkbox"/> High | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> Low |

(elaborate, if desired): _____

3. How much does the area of research you are currently working on interest you personally?

- ☐ Very interesting and definitely an area of research I would like to explore further.
☐ Very interesting, and somewhat related to (but not exactly) what I would rather explore in the future, which is: _____
☐ Interesting enough for the summer, but not closely related to the area of research I think I would be more interested in, which is: _____
☐ Not at all. I think I would prefer (no research? different area of marine science? different field?): _____

4. Approximately how many hours a week would you say your research project is requiring of you (time spent in lab, office, field, library)? _____

1st few weeks

right now

anticipated (coming wks)

5. How important / useful / enjoyable have the Thursday afternoon seminars been for you? How could they be improved?

6. How important / useful / enjoyable have the Tuesday brown bag lunch gatherings been for you? How could they be improved?

7. What would you say are the best and worst things about the Hatfield Marine Science Center as a place to do a summer research internship?

Best: _____

Worst: _____

8. What suggestions or recommendations could you offer for improving any aspect of the program you have experienced thus far?

Thank you for your responses to this questionnaire, which will be very helpful to us in evaluating the program and making improvements. Please return completed questionnaire to Itchung Cheung/Kaplan Yalcin (mailbox or office) by Thursday, July 15th.

Summer 2010 Research Experience for Undergraduates

Exit Survey Part 1

1. Which program did you work with COAS or HMSC (circle one)?

2. Please list the area(s) of marine science you are interested in now.

3. How would you rate your current level of knowledge about the area of research you worked on this summer?

Research Topic:

☐ High

☐ Medium

☐ Low

☐ None

Research Tools/Methods:

☐ High

☐ Medium

☐ Low

☐ None

(elaborate, if desired): _____

4. What is the highest degree you think you'd like to pursue and in what field?

Degree:

☐ Not sure yet

☐ Bachelor's degree

☐ Master's degree

☐ Professional degree (for example: teaching credential, nursing, law, medicine, veterinarian science) (specify) _____

☐ Ph. D/Doctorate degree

☐ Other (please specify) _____

Field:

☐ Not sure yet

☐ (List field) _____

5. How much does the area of research you are currently working on interest you personally?

☐ Very interesting and definitely an area of research I would like to explore further.

☐ Very interesting, and somewhat related to (but not exactly) what I would rather explore in the future, which is: _____

☐ Interesting enough for the summer, but not closely related to the area of research I think I would be more interested in, which is: _____

☐ Not at all. I think I would prefer (no research? different area of marine science? different field?): _____

We'd like to learn more about your interests and educational plans. Please circle the number that is closest to how you feel now.

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. I like marine science, but have strong doubts about whether a research career in the field is for me. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| b. I am aware of the range of research careers available to me in the field of marine science. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| c. I understand what is required to pursue a graduate degree at a university. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| d. I have already decided to pursue a marine science-related graduate program. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| e. I need help preparing to apply to a graduate program. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| f. As a result of participating in the REU program, I am more likely to choose a science career in marine research. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| g. The experience I have with the REU program will benefit my future career. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| h. I feel confident working in a research laboratory | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| i. I feel confident presenting scientific information to other scientists. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| j. I am confident that I would like to do research in marine science. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| k. I am interested in going to graduate school to pursue research in marine science. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |
| l. I am interested in presenting research at a scientific conference or symposium. | 1 strongly agree | 2 somewhat agree | 3 neither agree nor disagree | 4 somewhat disagree | 5 strongly disagree |

Please rate each of the following aspects of the REU program, based on your experience here this summer:

| | Poor | | Fair | | Good | | Excellent | | | |
|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|-----------|---|---|----|
| Application process | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Program coordination, communications | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Program structure, schedule | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Mentoring (from assigned mentor) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Mentoring (from others) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Living environment | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Working environment | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Adjunct activities: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thursday afternoon seminars | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Research ethics discussions | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Learning about other research (i.e. lab tours, other research experiences) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Graduate school discussions | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Weekend trip | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Other: _____ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

Comments, suggestions:

Please return completed questionnaires to the evaluator during your appointed evaluation time on Friday, August 19th.

Summer 2010 Research Experience for Undergraduates

Exit Interview – Part 2

1. Part 1 – Question 2 follow-up

Have they changed since participating in the REU program? ____YES____NO

Specifically, what prompted you to change your decision?

2. How do you feel about the research project you undertook this summer?

(Too complex, or too much work for the time period? Not challenging enough? Just about right?)

Comments:

3. Approximately how many hours a week would you say your research project required in the final couple of weeks (time spent in lab, office, field, library)? _____

4. What are two things you have learned during your time here

5. As a result of this program, how has your understanding of marine science changed?

6. In addition to your research area, what other areas of marine science did you get to explore?

7. How has this experience affected your outlook on what you might do in the future?

8. What are your thoughts on the mentoring part of the experience?

9. What are your thoughts on the ethics component of the program?

10. Were you able to get the information you needed for your research from the library? Any suggestions for the library?

11. What would you say are the best and worst things about the program?

Best

Worst

12. What suggestions or recommendations could you offer for improving any aspect of the program?