July, 2013

Dear Summer Research Scholar,

As you’ll recall, in an effort to evaluate the impact of independent summer research, I asked you to complete a short survey earlier this year. The attached survey is a post-test that will allow me to compare your spring responses to those that you provide now. As before, I ask that you fill-in your student ID number so that I can match these responses to those you gave earlier. Even though your individual-level responses will not be *anonymous*, please be assured that they will be *confidential* (that is, they will not be shared with anyone else).

If there is anything else you would like to tell me about the summer research experience that is not part of the survey, please feel free to attach additional sheets. In particular, I’m interested in understanding what types of effects independent work has had both on your broader educational skills and attitudes as well as those that are more narrowly related to your major or primary area(s) of interest.

When you’ve completed the short survey, you may send it in paper (Jones 212, CMB 1020) or electronic form to Lisa Hutchinson ([lehutchinson@pugetsound.edu](mailto:lehutchinson@pugetsound.edu)). **Please note, surveys must be submitted by September 24 in order for you to receive the final $500 stipend.**

Sincerely,

Sunil Kukreja

Associate Dean

**Fall Survey: Student Summer Research**

**Specific Research skills**:

Please evaluate your own skill or level of expertise in the following areas:

Beginning Fairly Advanced

Level Good Level

1. Searching for primary source materials. 1 2 (3) 4 5
2. Reading and understanding primary source literature. 1 2 3 (4) 5
3. Defining project goals that are realistic and manageable. 1 2 3 (4) 5
4. Analyzing data or other forms of evidence. 1 2 (3) 4 5
5. Drawing appropriate conclusions from data or other forms of evidence. 1 2 3 (4) 5
6. Writing in the discipline. 1 2 (3) 4 5
7. Presenting your work. 1 2 3 (4) 5
8. Securing and managing grants or research awards. 1 (2) 3 4 5
9. Working alone, directing your own work with minimal guidance. 1 2 3 (4) 5
10. Knowledge of the field as related to your research interest. 1 2 3 4 (5)

**General Educational Skills and Abilities**

As related to your *overall abilities as a student*, please evaluate your own skill or level of expertise in the following areas:

Beginning Fairly Advanced

Level Good Level

1. The ability to think logically and analytically. 1 2 3 (4) 5
2. Your tolerance for ambiguity. 1 2 3 (4) 5
3. Academic confidence; the ability to learn on your own. 1 2 (3) 4 5
4. Ability to apply academic work in a broader context. 1 2 (3) 4 5
5. Leadership skills. 1 2 3 (4) 5
6. An understanding of the interrelationships among the various fields of

knowledge and the significance of one discipline for another. 1 2 (3) 4 5

1. Clear sense of your future academic interest. 1 2 (3) 4 5

**Relationships, Engagement, and Commitment**

Please rate the following areas on the scale provided:

Very Moderate Very

weak Strong

1. Engagement with, and passion about, an area of study. 1 2 3 4 (5)
2. Your commitment to your major. 1 2 3 4 (5)
3. Your relationship with your faculty research mentor. 1 2 3 4 (5)
4. Your sense of belonging to a community of peer-scholars. 1 2 3 (4) 5
5. Your commitment to the department of your major. 1 2 3 (4) 5
6. Your commitment to the University of Puget Sound. 1 2 (3) 4 5

**Open-Ended Questions (attach additional sheets if needed)**

1. Student Name/ID number: abaldwin 1404470
2. Please describe the most positive benefit(s) you’ve experienced as a result of conducting research over the summer.

I really enjoyed having the freedom set my own parameters for my art. Where as in class we are given specific prompts and parameters for how to complete the assignment, this summer I felt I was able to treat this as a real piece of art and not just an assignment. I feel I grew a lot as an artist over the course of the summer. I definitely struggled at different points but I feel I can create art at a higher level of sophistication than I was at the start of the summer. I felt very fortunate to have had the time and money to explore my artistic interests.

1. In what way(s) has the summer research experience fallen short of your expectations? How could this be improved for future students?

Although the symposium was fine, I had envisioned something a little more serious than poster boards in the library. Having made physical pieces of art for my research, I found that this format for the presentation was ineffective. I was fortunate to be able to bring several small items to show; however, I sympathize with the other art students whose work consisted of an installation. It would be nice to have an opportunity to show the actual installation to other people in a formal manner.