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This is a comprehensive self-evaluation tool for the student who participated in an REU. It is useful for determining specific research skills you, the student researcher, acquired, your self-perception as a researcher, and your plans for graduate study.

NOTE: The original version of this questionnaire is available for download at www.ncwit.org/reubox. You can modify or use as is.

SECTION 1: RESEARCH SKILLS

Did the REU help me to...

1. Understand contemporary concepts in computing?
2. Make use of others' research in computing (e.g., from journal articles)?
3. Develop better research skills?
4. Select a research topic?
5. Identify a specific question for investigation based on existing research in computing?
6. Formulate a research hypothesis based on a specific question?
7. Design an experiment or theoretical test of a hypothesis?
8. Write programming code for testing?
9. Observe and collect data?
10. Understand how to synthesize existing research on a subject?

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11. Statistically analyze data?
12. Reformulate the original research hypothesis (as appropriate)?
13. Relate results to the “bigger picture” in computing?
14. Prepare a poster or presentation for a professional conference?
15. Orally communicate the results of research projects?
16. Write a research paper for publication?
17. Deal with setbacks (e.g., participants leaving study)?
18. Deal with unexpected findings?
19. Clarify career options?
20. Find other research opportunities?
21. Identify fellowship opportunities?
22. Select a graduate school?
23. Apply to graduate school?
24. Understand the qualifications for applying to graduate school?

SECTION 2: PERCEPTIONS AS A RESEARCHER

Can I confidently say that because of the REU...

1. I feel like I belong to a community of researchers?
2. I feel more confident of my computing knowledge in general?
3. I feel more confident of my understanding of research and what researchers do?
4. My project was challenging to me?
5. It is important to me that my project solves a real-world problem?
6. I feel a stronger commitment to finish my computing degree?
7. Over the course of the summer/semester/year, I felt greater responsibility for the project?
8. The research topic was interesting to me?
9. I had the support I needed to make a contribution to the project?
10. I am proud of my contribution to the project?

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SECTION 3. PREPARATION FOR ENROLLMENT IN A GRADUATE PROGRAM

Can I confidently say that because of the REU I will take the following steps toward enrollment in a graduate program?

1. Peruse websites to find relevant programs?
2. Study for entrance exam (e.g., GRE or other standardized test)?
3. Take entrance exam?
4. Complete and submit application?
5. Visit graduate program campus?
6. Talk to graduate advisor/director?
7. Talk to other faculty in the department?
8. Seek letters of recommendation?
9. Write an admission essay or personal statement?
10. Seek academic transcripts?

You may wish to discuss with the questions you did not feel were satisfied by your participation in the REU with your REU faculty mentor or department chair.