

San Diego State University
Mathematics Research Experience for Undergraduates and Teachers 2008
Program Survey Summary

Participants were asked to anonymously answer ten survey questions evaluating the program. All participants returned the survey, and the question response rate was 100%. Each question was answered on a six-point scale. The overall average was 5.1, between Good and Excellent.

1=Terrible 2=Bad 3=Neutral 4=Positive 5=Good 6=Excellent

Ave.	Question
5.42	Please evaluate the REUT program as a whole.
5.33	Please evaluate the overall organization of the REUT program.
5.25	Please evaluate your Project Director.
5.25	Please evaluate your Project Team.
5.25	Please evaluate the expected impact of the REUT program on your career and life.
5.25	Please evaluate your specific research topic.
5.17	Please evaluate the social/recreational environment.
4.75	Please evaluate the SDSU campus facilities you used.
4.67	Please evaluate the outcome of your research.
4.5	Please evaluate the colloquium series.

Here are some quotes from these anonymous surveys.

- This has been a life changing experience for me.
- This has been a great experience.
- Fun, educational, and professional.
- This program prepared me for my future life.
- The housing provided was excellent.
- realistic picture of continuous research
- San Diego is great!
- This has been a great experience and has given me a clear understanding of what math research is.
- I feel more confident than ever about pursuing graduate school.

Participants were also asked to answer seven questions about attitudes toward the mathematical sciences. They were surveyed both at the beginning of the program and at its conclusion. Ten survey pairs were received, with a question response rate of 100%. Each question was on a six-point scale. Individual participant attitudes increased¹ between 1 and 10 total points between the seven questions, with an average increase of 5.2 points (0.75 points per question). TMS broadly denotes “the mathematical sciences”.

1=Strongly Disagree 2=Moderately Disagree 3=Disagree Slightly
 4=Agree Slightly 5=Moderately Agree 6=Strongly Agree

Change in Attitude	Question
1.9	I understand the nature of research in TMS.
1.7	I understand the nature of graduate study in TMS.
1.5	I write technical material in TMS well.
0.3	I plan to pursue (further) graduate study in TMS.
0.1	I want research in TMS to be part of my future career.
-0.1	I enjoy discussing TMS with others.
-0.2	I enjoy doing TMS.

It is noteworthy that the pretest average on “I enjoy doing TMS” was 6, leaving no possible room for increase; this is surely due to the self-selected nature of the participants.

¹No participant had an overall decrease in attitudes.