

**San Diego State University  
Mathematics Research Experience for Undergraduates 2016  
Program Survey Summary**

Participants were asked to anonymously answer ten survey questions evaluating the program. The question response rate was 100%. Each question was answered on a six-point scale. The overall average was 5.48, Good/Excellent.

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

Ave.    Question

---

5.75	Please evaluate the REU program as a whole.
5.75	Please evaluate your Project Director.
5.67	Please evaluate the expected impact of the REU program on your career and life.
5.5	Please evaluate your Project Team.
5.42	Please evaluate the overall organization of the REU program.
5.42	Please evaluate the SDSU campus facilities you used.
5.42	Please evaluate the opening week.
5.33	Please evaluate the social/recreational environment.
5.33	Please evaluate your specific research topic.
5.25	Please evaluate the outcome of your research.

Here are some quotes from these anonymous surveys.

- I wish every mathematics student could experience this program.
- I loved it. I only wish I'd applied to do something like this before.
- I now know what research in mathematics is like.
- Everyone was mutually supportive and helpful.
- I enjoyed working with everyone in my group.
- Very well organized and planned.
- Very good result.
- I learned an insane amount very quickly.
- I obtained helpful contacts and learned a lot of math!
- Housing is my only complaint.
- Kick-ass program.

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. All survey pairs were received, with a question response rate of 99.5%. Each question was on a six-point scale.

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

Change in Attitude	Question
1.42	I understand the nature of research in mathematics.
1.17	I understand the nature of graduate study in mathematics.
0.73	I write technical material in mathematics well.
0.33	I enjoy doing mathematics.
0.17	I plan to pursue (further) graduate study in mathematics.
0.08	I enjoy discussing mathematics with others.
-0.50	I want research in mathematics to be part of my career.

Note the dramatic attitude increases in several questions. We consider the decrease in the last question to be a positive development. It is better for students to make good choices about their future, whether or not those futures include research in mathematics, based on their experiences in our program.