

Interview Outline:

Ask participants to fully explain their answers.

- 1.) Why did you choose a REU program vs. a summer job or other activity?
 - How did you learn about it?
 - What about it seemed interesting/ beneficial?
 - Why did you choose WSU specifically for the REU program?
- 2.) Have you had any experience in research prior to this program?
 - In what way did that experience benefit you?
 - Are you hoping to get similar benefits from this experience?
- 3.) What kinds of things do you want to achieve in this program?
 - What would make you feel like you've been successful in this program?
 - If you were talking to a perspective employer about this program, what would you want to tell them that you accomplished?
 - How confident are you in your ability to accomplish those things?
 - What plans do you have to make sure you accomplish those things?
 - In what ways do you expect your professors and peers will help you accomplish your goals?
- 4.) Do you feel confident in your abilities to perform the necessary tasks required by the program? (journal research, experiment planning, equipment use, writing and presentation)
 - Are there any parts of the program you are nervous about?
 - Are there any areas you feel you will excel?
 - What are you most looking forward to?
- 5.) What are your plans after the completion of your undergraduate degree? Do you think this program will affect your decision?
 - Have you considered Grad school?
 - What are the factors that will affect your choice whether or not to go to grad school?
 - Do you want to go straight into industry?
 - What are the factors that will affect your choice whether or not to go straight into industry?
- 6.) When we say the Scientific Method, what do you think of?
 - What aspects do you think you would be more comfortable working on independently? With guidance from an advisor?
 - Do you feel utilizing the scientific method produces concrete or nebulous results?
 - What level of confidence do you have in those results?

- **Formulate a Question**
- **Do Background Research**
- **Construct a Hypothesis**
- **Test Your Hypothesis by Doing an Experiment**
- **Analyze Your Data and Draw a Conclusion**
- **Communicate Your Results**

Example provided by Shelley Pressley at Washington State University, please contact for permission to use (spressley@wsu.edu). Thanks.