

Attachment 9

Student Survey Introductory E-mail

Dear <NAME>:

You have been identified by an Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) awardee as a student who previously worked in an AREA-funded laboratory. As the Director of the AREA (R15) Program, I am working with Westat, a nationally recognized independent research organization, to evaluate the extent to which the AREA program is fulfilling its mission to strengthen the overall quality and productivity of funded institutions or schools and to expose undergraduate students to hands-on research experience. On my behalf, Westat is collecting information from AREA awardees, students involved in AREA-funded projects, and applicants for AREA funding.

Your feedback is critical to understanding the program. In about one week, you will receive an invitation to participate in an online survey for this evaluation from Westat. Participation in the survey is voluntary, but your involvement will help NIH understand the impact of the AREA program and develop strategies to further enhance the program's impact.

If you have any questions about the administration of this survey or the overall evaluation, please contact me.

Michelle M. Timmerman, Ph.D.
Director, NIH AREA Program
Office of Extramural Research
Office of the Director
National Institutes of Health
R151@mail.nih.gov