

**Symposium on Engaging Undergraduates in Research And Inquiry:  
A scholarly Dialogue, May 20, 2011, HKUST**

**1. Project/Course title**

Summer Research Fellowship (SRF) & Overseas Research Fellowship (ORF) Schemes

**2. Project/Course team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institute</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Department/ Division</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
<i>Course Instructor/Project leader:</i> Dr Nam Kiu TSING	The University of Hong Kong	Associate Dean (Teaching & Learning)	Faculty of Science	nktsing@hku.hk
<i>Members (if any):</i>				

**BEFORE**

**3. Project/Course objectives (Intended Learning Outcomes)**(Suggested number of words 30-40 words)

*What did you intend students to learn from this project/course?*

Gain research experience by conducting research in topics related to students' majored science disciplines under the guidance of professors, either within HKU or in overseas institutions.

Integrate theory and practice, and to understand limitations of their current knowledge.

Communicate to fellow students about their research experience and findings in a professional setting.

## **DURING**

### **4. Inquiry Based Learning Activities** (*Suggested number of words: 75-85 words*)

*What did students do (inquiry-based learning activities) during the course/project?*

Wrote up a research proposal

Conducted scientific research for a period of at least 8 weeks in the summer.

Participated in the SRF& ORF Poster Presentation and Research Colloquium.

## **AFTER** (*Suggested number of words for items 5&6: 50-60 words*)

### **5. How did you assess the effectiveness of students' learning?**

*Please give an account of the assessment methods and results.*

Evaluation questionnaire surveys of participating students and their supervisors were conducted after completion of the schemes.

Also, participating students were required to write passages on their experience of joining the SRF/ORF schemes. These passages indirectly reflected the effectiveness of the schemes.

### **6. What were the major outcomes of this project/course? Do they match with your Intended Learning Outcomes (objectives)?**

*Examples of outcomes include educational software, improvement in student learning or*

Over the past three summers (2007 – 2010), a total of 66 and 18 students have successfully completed the SRF and ORF schemes, respectively. Feedback from students and their supervisors were very positive. In particular they mostly agreed or strongly agreed that the schemes have (i) enhanced students' interest, knowledge and skills in science research, (ii) inspired the students and widened their horizons, (iii) enhanced their analytical ability and problem-solving skills, (iv) helped students to understand their strengths and weaknesses, and (v) facilitated students' daily classroom learning in science subjects.