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## How do undergraduate students respond to early research?

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Institutions of higher learning particularly at the undergraduate level are driven by strategies used in teaching and learning. Students tend to attribute their performance to the teaching methods used in academic terms. It is this measuring tool they use to determine their learning. In the academic environment where the focus is to get an increased number of students who'll enrol for postgraduate degrees, methods of attracting students to stay longer in the system are sought out timely. In the field of Science especially in Physics department, where student numbers at postgraduate level are normally low, new and innovative methods are necessary to attract and retain students in the system. A study has been conducted where students at the undergraduate level were introduced to the research environment, where the work they were exposed to is highly experimental. At the end of the period, students were required to report back on their experiences. The second part of the study involved the analysis of scientific data obtained from our research lab where students had to do literature search, which also forced them to consult respective postgraduate students. In this report the responses and observations obtained from the students are reported.

**Apply to be considered for a student award (Yes / No)?**

No

**Level for award (Hons, MSc, PhD, N/A)?**

N/A

**Would you like to submit a short paper for the Conference Proceedings (Yes / No)?**

yes

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