Abstract Submitted
for the DPP10 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Longitudinal Study of the Impact of attending the PPPL NUF/SULI Program on Undergraduates' Careers STEPHANIE WISSEL, JAMES MORGAN, JACQUELINE FIERROZ, JERRY ROSS, ANDREW ZWICKER — The Science Education Program at the Princeton Plasma Physics Labora- tory encourages autonomy and engagement in undergraduate research. Small-scale ex- periments permit students to take control of a project as well as participate in all aspects of the scientific process. Student involvement in larger-scale projects like NSTX and D3D introduce students to the laboratory-wide, collaborative nature of fusion research. Stu- dents involved in the national NUF/SULI programs organized by the SEP are more likely to become plasma scientists than the average physics student. Preliminary data also sug- gests that students return to the SEP on a multi-year basis and that they are likely to pursue a career in plasma physics. Using survey methods, we studied what draws those students to plasma physics and whether practices used at the PPPL can be generalized to other research programs.

Stephanie Wissel

Date submitted: 16 Jul 2010 Electronic form version 1.4