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Past participant's perspective on the Research Experience for Undergraduates program. DEREK PADILLA, San Diego State University — The Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) programs funded by the National Science Foundation provide an outstanding opportunity for many students to participate in high-quality research at a facility other than their own institution. As a participant in the summer of 2006 I will attest to the success of a great REU program. This discussion will focus on my work and experience while in the program as well as the continuing relationship with my advisors and the host department as a whole. In collaborating with all levels of REU personnel we will improve the function of an already outstanding opportunity for undergraduate students for the coming years.

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