**UC RET Project**

**End of Summer Focus Group Discussion: Guiding Questions**

1. Were your expectations met for the summer? Why or Why?
   1. Related to Research
   2. Related to PD during the summer sessions
   3. Related to creating Instructional Material or Unit
   4. Related to creating other project deliverables: technical report, PowerPoint presentation, student focused display poster, research movie, and journal paper draft
2. Overall, how well was the summer RET project implemented?
   1. What worked?
   2. What challenges you faced and how you addressed them as the work progressed?
3. What are the areas that need improvement for next year?
   1. What should change?
   2. What could change?
4. How did your project team work?
   1. What worked?
   2. What were the challenges, if any?
   3. What you gained personally?
   4. What unique contributions you made towards the team work?
   5. Will you continue the collaboration?
5. How did the research training and support to conduct the research project by the engineering faculty and GRA help you? Did it help you construct the engineering design process activity for your Unit?
6. How did the coaching provided by the RET Resource Person help you?
7. Specifically, in what way did your participation in the RET project help you apply the engineering design-and-challenge instruction process and the critical research skills used by engineers to solve open-ended real-world problems (Goal 1)
8. Now, what are your expectations for the school year?
   1. What is your Unit topic?
   2. Why did you select this topic? How are your reason(s) connected to issues impacting growth in student learning?
   3. When do you expect to teach it?
   4. What are the learning objectives for the Unit and its Activities?
   5. As a result of better instruction and curriculum delivery by you, how do you anticipate brining the summer RET research experience into your classroom will improve your student’s growth in learning in science/math? (Goal 2)
   6. As a result of better instruction and curriculum delivery by you, how do you anticipate brining the summer RET research experience into your classroom will increase your student’s interest in STEM careers? (Goal 2)
   7. In what ways do you anticipate the new skills acquired during summer will help you become an effective communicator and a role model for your colleagues? What new skills did you acquire during the summer? What skills you had from before were mastered during the summer? (Goal 3)
9. What post-RET interactions with your engineering faculty mentor and University are planned?
   1. Is any visit of Area Coordinator and/or GRA planned to your class?
   2. Are you planning a visit for your students to the University?
10. I would like to know your plans for:
    1. Integrating the new Ohio New Learning Standards for Science (ONLS) or the new Ohio Common Core Standards for Mathematics (CCSM) or any other school district directed standards in your RET Unit.
    2. Integrating assessment strategies in your RET Unit.
    3. Collecting data, analyzing data, and presenting results to document the impact on growth in student learning.
    4. Disseminating your RET experience, other than the Annual STEM Conference and RET website display, to your colleagues and other teachers.
    5. Publishing the journal paper.
11. How do you hope the implementation of the RET Unit and its dissemination opportunities will help you become a better teacher?