Capstone Readiness Self-Assessment – Independent Research Project

Please complete this form and return it via email to the NRES department at nres-ssc@illinois.edu by the time you have completed 16 hours in the program.

NAME: ________________________________  EMAIL ADDRESS: ______________________________

- Which capstone option do you prefer? _____ Independent Research   _____ Internship
- How much time do you expect to spend on the capstone per week? _____ hours
- What are your areas of interest? (Name three)

- What are some specific topics of interest within those areas?

- Do you have a particular faculty member whom you would like to work with? _____ Yes   _____ No
  If yes, please identify the person(s). ______________________________________________________
- What resources are available to you (financial, equipment, land use, experts in the field)?

- What resources do you anticipate needing?

- What skills do you possess (technical, writing, field training, laboratory techniques, use of equipment, certifications)?

- How skillful are you with reading scientific literature? ___ Expert   ___ Competent   ___ Novice
- How skillful are you with technical writing? ___ Expert   ___ Competent   ___ Novice
- How skillful are you with statistical analysis? ___ Expert   ___ Competent   ___ Novice
- How skillful are you with oral presentations? ___ Expert   ___ Competent   ___ Novice
- How good are you at managing time/meeting deadlines?
  _____ Exceptional   _____ Good   _____ Fair   _____ Poor
• What role do you envision for your Research Director (choose one)
  ____ Leader  ____ Mentor  ____ Senior Research Colleague  ____ Other (please explain)
• How accessible are you by phone?  ____ Very  ____ Usually  ____ Infrequently  ____ Never
• How accessible are you by email?  ____ Very  ____ Usually  ____ Infrequently  ____ Never
• What is your expectation about publication (please recognize that publication means extended time working and revising the documents according to publisher’s requirements)?  ____ Hope to publish  ____ Would like to publish if the work is suitable  ____ Do not want to publish
• How well do you receive constructive feedback?  ____ Well  ____ Average  ____ Not well
• What will be your most difficult issue while doing the capstone? Explain.

• What support (type and level) do you anticipate needing? Explain.