



## **AAUW WASHINGTON STATE TECH TREK 2015-2019**

### **EVALUATION REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Highlights of the evaluation report are listed here, in the executive summary.

1. The attendance at Tech Trek camps has increased from 2015-2019. This reflects the capacity of AAUW Washington to offer additional camps.
2. AAUW Washington has consistently provided high-quality activities for participants. Core classes, workshops/labs, evening activities and Professional Women's Night, averaged 91.3% excellent/good ratings.
3. The location of Tech Trek at university campuses provides the girls the opportunity to become familiar with navigating a college campus. Not only is this opportunity strategic, but AAUW simultaneously provides them with a high quality campus experience. Classrooms, teachers, food, and interactions with staff scored consistently scored above 92% excellent/good ratings.
4. In general, the analysis of variance (ANOVA) results show no differences in responses between years or locations signifying that AAUW Washington is providing a consistent experience for girls attending Tech Trek.
5. The use of a validated survey to assess Pre/Post gains in psychometric traits has the potential to contribute to the literature on the relationship between factors that influence middle school girls' career choices in STEM careers. Paired-samples t-Tests showed statistically significant gains in PRE/POST responses for Knowledge, Interest, and Confidence in STEM.

6. The gains in knowledge about STEM careers were particularly strong indicating that the girls benefit the most from information about STEM careers. AAUW might consider broadening their curriculum to include more information on STEM careers and how to make them appealing to middle school girls.
7. Perceptions of Women in STEM was statistically significant but had a small effect size indicating that there was no meaningful change in PRE/POST responses and that the girls were already in a favorable state of mind at the beginning of the program.
8. As a result of attending Tech Trek in Washington, 44% of the girls are interested in STEM careers that are currently underrepresented by females. The remaining 56% of girls chose traditional careers for women such as allied health, biology, or non-STEM careers. While the core classes in STEM were well attended, it did not translate into the intention to enter career that are underrepresented by females.

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