Worlds of Possibilities!

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Fourth Annual OPTI-West Resident and Faculty Development Research Conference
Which!!?

Jupiter, Saturn, reach for the stars... or come down to earth!
What is Research?

Systematic Investigation of a subject, a problem, or a phenomenon

Adding new material to the body of knowledge in one’s field
Field-Specific Definitions

- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Engineering Disciplines
- Natural Sciences (including biomedicine)
What kinds of studies are possible for me?

- Description of a phenomenon or problem
- Way of *dealing with* a problem (methods paper, Continuing Quality Improvement, etc.)
- Retrospective Analysis
- Clinical Trials
- Case Studies
- Controlled Experimentation
Practical Suggestions

- Select an area of lifetime interest
- Select something you can build on
- Select something in which you already have some background
- Select something that will enable you to expand your skills
Important questions to ask (yourself!)

- What will be the nature of my research?
- What resources and facilities do I have at my disposal?
- What is my level of expertise in using the resources and facilities?
Personal Goals

- Personal enrichment

- To develop and enjoy the process of inquiry (systematic investigation)