**Exercise#2**

Write a two-three-page summary about your approach to the presentation and analysis. Your summary could include some of the following discussions:

1. How did you prepare the data for analysis?

* First I loaded the data using R language, by exploring the data, there are 668 rows and 125 columns.
* Second, reformat the column names. In the raw data there are question mark, dash, space, dot that is not suitable and standard for column names, so I filter them out and replaced them with either underscore, or no space.
* From instruction on powerpoint, we need to exclude the international student, so I filtered and excluded them from the dataframe.
* Now the data is much more clean and ready for further analysis.

1. How did you address any missing values?

First, I did analysis and find out if there are cases that are completed empty (full of NAs), these records should be excluded for the further analysis.

Second, find out how many NAs in each row and each column, if the NA rate is higher than a cut out rate, for example, 50%, then the row and columns should be excluded.

For rows and columns that has lower NA rate, we need to remove NAs and replaced them with a value. Currently, we need imputation. Imputation is especially important in advanced data analysis. There are lots of methods of data imputation, for this analysis, I used averaged imputation. In this way, missing values are taken care of.

1. Which statistical methods did you use for your data analysis, and why?

* When compare if there is a significant difference between URG students’ group and non-URG students’ group for the categories in question faculty mentoring and advising, I used pairwise t-test to calculate p value. In those categories: selection of a dissertation topic, your dissertation research, writing and revising your dissertation, academic career option, nonacademic career option, search for employment or training, I found that there is no significant statistical difference between URG and Non-URG students as p value is larger than 0.05.
* I also convert likert scale data to numbers and used means of score to visualize the program quality score bar plot.
* In the category of selection of a dissertation topic, I used ANOVA to conduct an analysis showing that there is no significant difference of extent of helpful on this category between different ethnicity/race group.

1. Did you determine response rates for the different questions? Why or why not?

Yes

1. Did you consider weighting any of the data? If yes, why?

Yes. For example, from this data we can see in race/ethnicity variable, the percentage of white is much more than other group, making sample result biased toward white. This might be the issue of method of sampling, or they have higher response than other group. What we need to do is to have the target proportion, divided by the actual proportion of different race group, to get weight of each different group. In this way, it can be a rebalance way and can make survey more accurately to reflect population.

1. What appropriate tests of statistical significance did you consider using (and used), when evaluating differences across different sub-populations?

ANOVA is the method to use evaluating differences across different sub-population group.