## CRAFTING A PERSONAL STATEMENT WORKSHOP A Cross-Campus Collaboration Model



## BEHIND THE SCENES

Higher education professionals are often encouraged by their universities to collaborate across colleges and departments. At the University of Georgia, there is scattered support for students working on their personal statement for the professional school application. The Career Center, Writing Center, and Pre-Professional Advising Office decided to collaborate to ease the burden on our units and further support students. To that end, we created a multifaceted workshop that includes both virtual and in-person sessions for 30 students applying to professional programs in this 2019 cycle.

## **Workshop Goals:**

- Collaborate with partners across campus
- Streamline student services
- Build solid connections with staff, students, and current professional students/alumni

## The Components of a Personal Statement Workshop

Logistics & Structure



Collaboration & Outreach



Student Success



Personal Statement Format

Commitment

Logistics & Training

Alumni Outreach Promotional & Educational Materials

Workshop Schedule Feedback: Collect & Analyze Data

DATE	LOGISTICAL BREAKDOWN FOR PRE-PROFESSIONAL PERSONAL STATEMENT WORKSHOP SERIES
January 24	Opened registration for the workshop (10am).
January 25	Closed registration (10am) and emailed students about their status (enrolled v. wait-listed).
February 6 & 11	Sent reminder email to participants regarding the first in-person session.
February 13	<b>Session 1:</b> Presented in-depth PowerPoint regarding personal statement writing and managed interactive writing activities. Announced collaboration with professional students to encourage continued participation.

	Gave students a writing assignment on themes.
February 18	Sent reminder email regarding next in-person session.  Sent professional students the names and emails of the participants they will be paired with as well as a guideline and sample questions for reference.
February 20	<b>Session 2:</b> Did a peer pair & share activity, discussed the PEEL outline, and held a first draft write-in session.
February 25	Sent reminder email to participants to submit their first draft by 10am on February 27.
February 27	Session 3: Confirmed that all participants had submitted their first draft. Connected these participants with their professional student volunteers via an introductory email. Contacted the participants who had not submitted their first draft by the deadline to assess how to move forward.
March 6	<b>Session 4:</b> Confirmed that all professional students had submitted their feedback. Reminded participants that they have two weeks to complete their second draft. Sent professional consultants the names and emails of the participants they will be paired with.
March 18	Sent reminder email to participants to submit their second draft by 10am on March 20.
March 20	Confirmed that all participants had submitted their second draft. Connected participants with professional consultants via an introductory email. Contacted the participants who had not submitted their second draft by the deadline to assess how to move forward.
March 28	<b>Session 6:</b> In-person feedback from the professional consultants. Final draft write-in.
April 1	Emailed students a reminder of their April 3 final draft deadline.
April 3	Session 7: Confirmed that all participants submitted their final draft via email.
April 8	Emailed reminder to professional consultants to send final draft feedback via email to their assigned participants by April 10.
April 10	Session 8: Confirmed that final draft feedback was sent to participants.
April 12	<b>Feedback:</b> Sent survey to 27 participants, complied data and shared results with both professional students and professional consultants. Over 50% of students responded.





