Psi Chi/UPO Meeting minutes

10/27/14

CV/Personal Statement Workshop

Announcements

* Facebook page (UNLPsiChiUPO)
* Twitter page (@UnlPsiChi\_UPO)
* If anyone has questions or wants pointers, feel free to contact Mike Dodd.

Resources

* There is a great resource under Graduate Career and Professional Development on the UNL website for CV/Resume Information

Tips for CV/Resume

* CV is career-long, whereas Resume is for more brief summary of your experience
* Don’t list High School Experiences or Personal Information such as citizenship or date of birth
	+ Also do not list your grades or work experiences on CV
* Avoid being redundant in your personal statement.
	+ Don’t restate information that is already on your CV.
* You may want to change your experiences around depending on what you are applying for and what is relevant to what you are applying for.
* Poster presentations and conferences are great things to list on your CV.
	+ The Undergad Fair at UNL is a great opportunity to present research.
* Don’t “pad” your experiences. Be honest about your actual experience.

Tips for Personal Statements

* When it comes to Grad School applications, most applicant are very similar in academic achievement.
	+ Letters of reference and Personal Statements are the only things that can set you apart from others.
	+ Personal statements are the only thing that you have control over.
* What not to do:
	+ Don’t tip them into personal information that can be used against you (e.g., mental health issues).
	+ Don’t overshare.
	+ Don’t be redundant of what is stated in your CV.
	+ Don’t make up a story or tell a cliché story. Be truthful (people can tell when you are making up stuff).
* Pay attention to the writing itself. This serves as an example of your ability to write.
* Contact potential advisors to make sure that they are accepting students.
	+ Programs may toss out your application if you have not researched your advisors and made the effort to contact them.

Other Things to Know about Applying

* Initial contact with Mentor should be short paragraph about what you are interested in and whether they are accepting students are not.
	+ Mike has resources about what questions to ask after that initial contact it advisor is interested.
* Always waive your right to view your reference letter.
* Can ask letter writers to address weak points in your application.
	+ Be careful to not sound too demanding about what you want.