

CSU Stanislaus LSAMP

December 1, 2016

Personal Statement – some thoughts

- Introduce yourself professionally
- What can you bring to them?
 - Skills and knowledge
 - Passion and desire to learn
 - Hard work
- What can they do for you?
 - Move you toward your career goals
 - Provide opportunities to gain skills and knowledge
 - Teach you how to do research
- Why are you a good fit?

Bad Statement of Purpose

- http://www.niu.edu/engagedlearning/_pdfs/grad-school/PREP-Statement-of-Purpose-Bad-Example.pdf
 - We will go through this in some detail
- <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~pavlo/blog/2015/10/how-to-write-a-bad-statement-for-a-computer-science-phd-admissions-application.html>
 - Computer Science professor at CMU on some of the mistakes he has seen students make

Advice on Writing

- <https://www.uwb.edu/getattachment/careers/majors-and-careers/gradschool/application-materials/what-is-a-personal-statement-doc.pdf>
- http://www.pathwaystoscience.org/pdf/Applying_WritingEssaysAndPersonalStatements.pdf

Resources

- <https://inside.sou.edu/mcnair/portal/portal-to-resources.html>
 - Lots of resources on graduate school and how to prepare for it
- <http://www.csus.edu/nsm/see/student%20resources/enrichment%20programs.html>
 - Has link to “Guide to Summer Enrichment & Postbaccalaureate Programs”

Graduate School Applications

- <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~harchol/gradschooltalk.pdf>
 - CMU CS Professor on whether you might want to get a PhD and how to apply
- <http://www.kaptest.com/blog/grad-school-insider/2011/07/05/true-confessions-of-a-bad-grad-application/>
 - Blog about graduate school application mistakes