**PEER REVIEW GUIDE - for Fellowship Personal Statement**

Here are some guiding questions to help you review each other's work. Respond in ways that will

help improve the quality and presentation of the statement you are reading.

Writer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Reviewer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Rubric for peer review of personal statement for fellowship application.

1. Relationship of fellowship to student:

What was the target fellowship for which the student wrote their statement? If none provided, please mark unknown.

Describe how the writer linked their career goals with the goals of the organization. Comment on ways this could be improved.

How well did the work or activity of the person match those mentioned by the organization or in the statement of the fellowship?

1. Personal-ness of statement:

Comment on how well the writer described their personal motivation to pursue this activity.

Does it give you a good feeling about the person and their long term goals?

How has the writer explained any adversities to their career or activities? Are the examples of solving problems in the past compelling and clear? Comment on ways this could be improved.

1. Relevant Background of student:

Point out specific places where the writer indicated their preparation for this activity. How do their past activities relate to their future goals?

Does their background align with their future goals? How well do their experiences demonstrate their preparedness for these activities? Point out any deficiencies in their academic or personal preparation for these activities and how they were addressed.

1. Future Goals:

Point out specific places where the writer described their career goals. Is it clear what role the proposed program plays in the writer’s career goals?

Will the activity they plan on conducting propel them to achieve their career goals?

List some ways the writer could make a more compelling link between the fellowship and their career aspirations.

1. Writing and organization:

Is the information logically presented? Explain why or why not with examples.

Are there topic and transition sentences? (those that provide flow to the writing)

Underline each topic or transition sentence in the document

Are section headings indicated clearly? Can you recommend some places to add headings?

Does the statement contain any jargon or abbreviations that are not defined? Circle them.

Are there any logistical problems, like problems with grammar, spelling errors, run-on sentences (those that contain more than 2 ideas or extend more than 15-20 words)? Circle any that you find.

Mark any words that may be misused or overused in sentences. Suggest alternative words.

Overall: Comment on ways to make this personal statement more compelling to a reviewer.