

## **Tips on writing a creative Statement of Educational Purpose**

“Telling is sort of interesting, but only sort of interesting”

Professor Jim Toner

- If you feel overwhelmed over composing an important essay, break it down into stages.
  - ❖ Exploratory—brainstorming—free writing stage
  - ❖ Rough it out. Remember, no editing.
  - ❖ Write
  - ❖ Edit
  
- This is a statement of educational purpose. Your topic should be about:
  - ❖ Your passion, your love in life.
  - ❖ If money didn't matter, what is your passion?
  - ❖ What matters to you?
  - ❖ What is your occupational goal, and how will your education lead you there.
  
- Strategy: Convey through a story:
  - ❖ Your moment of clarity / epiphany, the moment when you realized exactly what you wanted to do and be.
  - ❖ Your moment of change or inspiration where your interest was captured.
  - ❖ Grab and engage your reader w/ your story, connect that with your classes taken, degree objective and how they apply to your goal, close with a reference to your story
  
- More tips...
  - ❖ Show don't tell the story, be descriptive.
  - ❖ Graphically detail and dramatize your story
  - ❖ Tell your truth. Be authentic truthful and concise. Don't try to use unfamiliar language. Just be yourself.