Tool for Researching and Applying to Colleges and Fellowships

UTSA

McNair

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Summary

Purpose:

To identify potential graduate schools offering a degree in the field of interest and identify potential barriers. Scholars have a huge task of researching thousands of possible universities they could attend. This tool was created to assist them in narrowing down their choices based on facts.

This Excel Spreadsheet provides scholars with a robust list of information they should be looking for and provides an easy way to organize it in a way that keeps everything in one place. Armed with good facts they can make solid decisions.

References

Asher, D. (2000). Graduate admissions essays: Write your way into the graduate school of your choice (Rev. and updated. ed.). Berkeley, Calif.: Ten Speed Press.

Acknowledgements

I want to thank the senior McNair Scholars who taught me through their struggles researching colleges how to organize this data. I would also like to thank Darrell Balderrama, UTSA administration, Donald Asher, and the Dept. of Education for their support.

Graduate School Research & Action Plan

| Name of University -->	UTSA			UT Austin								
Website	http://ece.utsa.edu/programs/g			http://www.ma.utexas.edu/academics/graduate/								
Location	San Antonio TX			Austin, TX								
Program-name (PhD/Masters)	Ph.D. Electrical Engineering			Ph.D Math								
Size of department	22 faculty											
Info on faculty w/my interest area	Dr. Hung											
Ranking if known	?, Engineering #5 for Hispanics,			top 25% research universities worldwide								
Ph.D. or Masters	Ph.D.											
Deadline to apply	1-Apr			15-Dec								
Deadline for support	Feb. 15			0								
Application fee	$30			$65								
Waiver of app. Fees	Waived			Waived								
Fellowship or Assistantship	Valero, College of Engineering S			McNair Fellowship								
GRE Requirements	Yes			3.5+								
Degree Requirements	3.0+, 18+ cr Engineering											
*Acceptance Rate	37%			13%								
Admission Requirements	no min. req., Engineering degree											
Avg GPA	3.0+											
Avg Test Scores	old 1100 combined			Q=165-167, V=163-167, 720 Subject test								
Length of Program	4-5 yrs											
How many letters of rec	3			3								
Add yours here...	classes held 2-5pm or evenings											
	#1 Cyber Security in nation											

(find the percentage of applicants admitted to programs: by calling the grad school office, or researching "Peterson's guides", "The Gourman Report", or "Research-Doctorate Programs in the United States")

Name of University -->	UTSA	0	0	UT Austin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CORRESPONDANCE												
Names of faculty & area	John Smith											
Contact info: email/phone	210-458-5555. john.smith@utsa.edu											
Date of contacts to faculty	8/8/2014											
Are they nice to me?	friendly											
Add yours here...	set up meeting 8/10/14											

Name of University -->	UTSA	0	0	UT Austin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
APPLICATION MATERIALS CHECKLIST												
Username/Pwd	abc124, password			abc123, password								
Transcript Sent	Yes			Yes								
Fee/Waiver Paid	waived			waived								
Letters of Recom sent 1, 2, 3, 4	2 or 3											
Scores sent	Yes			Yes								
Personal Stmnt/Stmnt of Purpose	St. of Purpose			personal stmt								
CV/Resume	yes											
Application submitted	11/9/2014											
Date applic. verified complete	11/10/2014											

| Name of University -->	UTSA	0	0	UT Austin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PROGRAM FUNDING CHECKLIST												
Name of Funding	Valero Research Fellows			McNair Fellowship								
Deadline	Nomination			automatic								
Website	http://engineering2.utsa.edu/gr			http://www.utexas.edu/ogs/funding/fellowships/diversity_recruit/index.html#mcnair								
Amount	$1,500			tuition								
Materials Required				Nomination								
Status												
Fellowship/Assistanship	yes			Fellowship								

The first column is frozen, which allows students to move the college they're working on close to the row headings
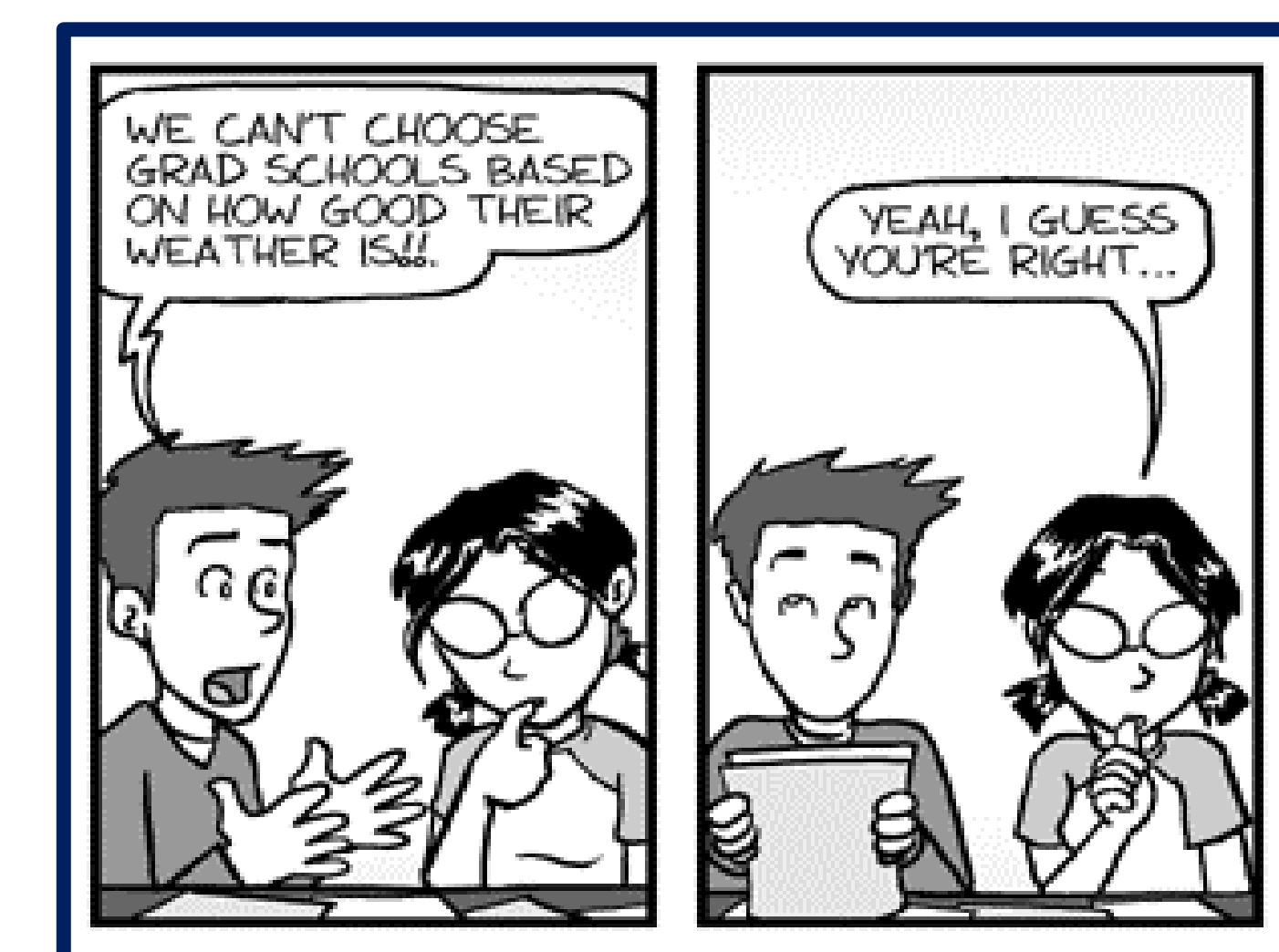
← Acceptance rate is * highlighted above with a note here to assist them with the difficult task of how to find this crucial information to help them make a better decision.
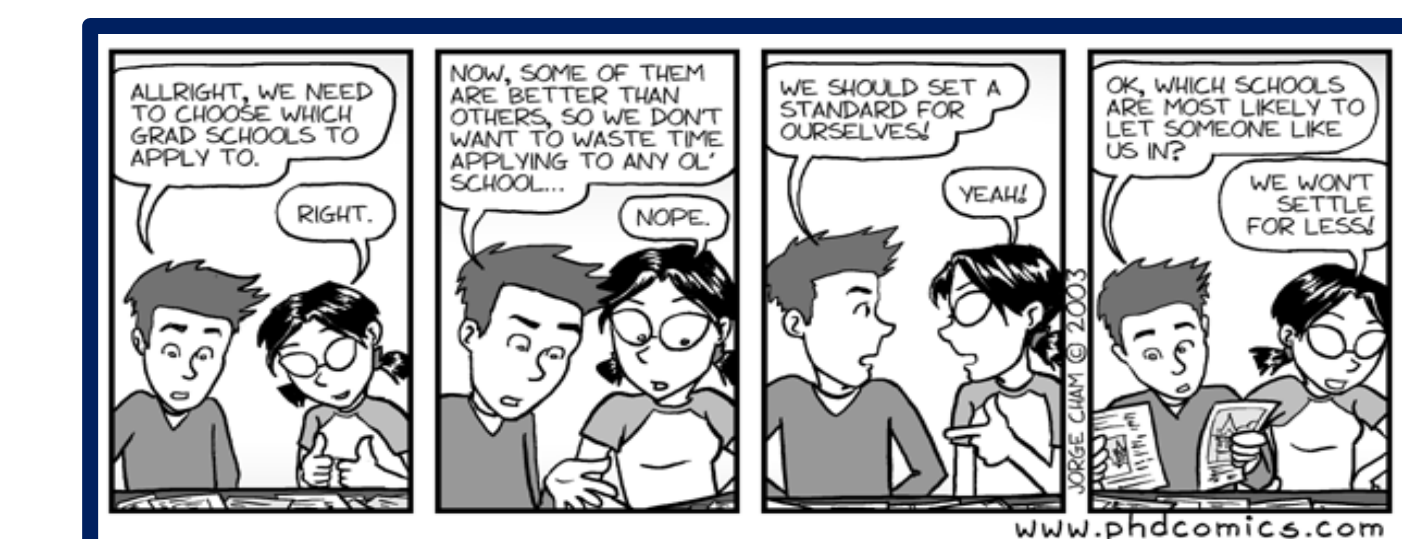
I also include separate tabs/pages in the spreadsheet
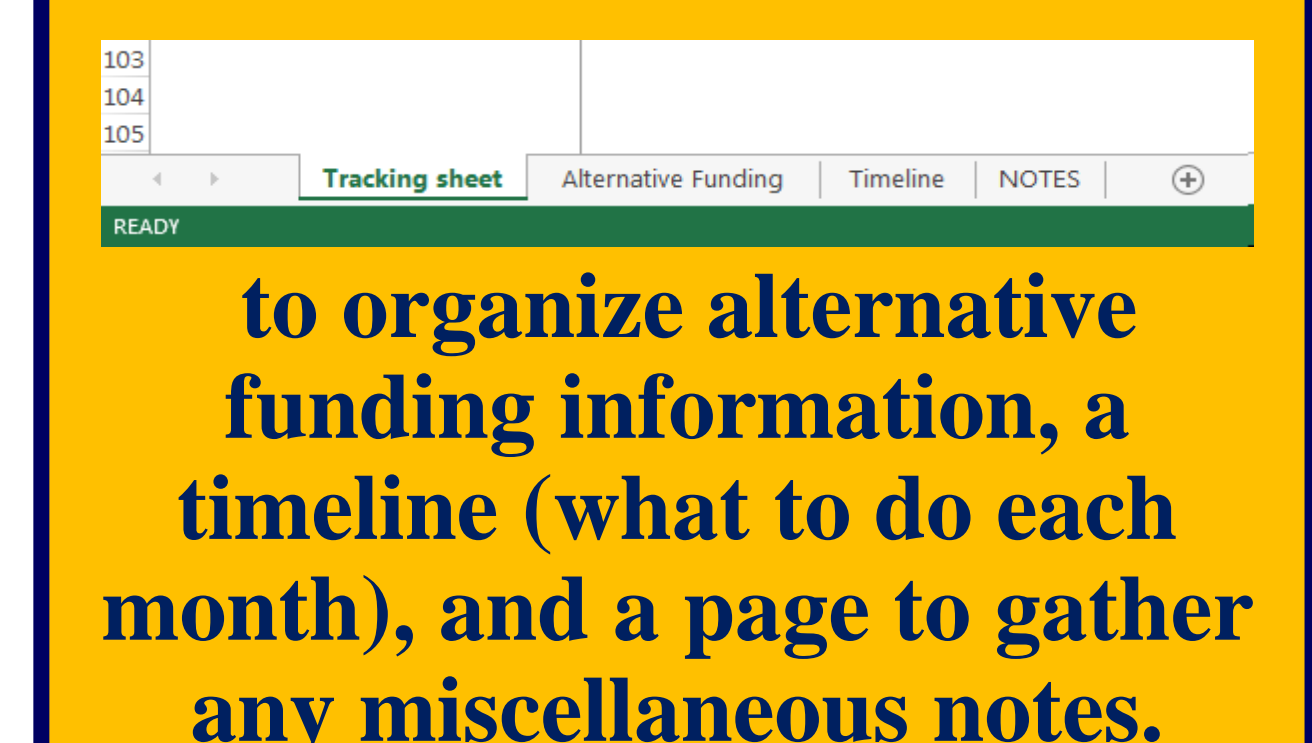
to organize alternative funding information, a timeline (what to do each month), and a page to gather any miscellaneous notes.