**Questions for Pre-Conference Planning**

Prior to attending StatFest, the questions below are provided to help you reflect upon your reasons and intentions for attending StatFest.

1. What is your purpose for attending StatFest?
2. What do you hope to learn or gain from attending StatFest?
3. Are there people you would like to meet? If so, who?
4. Are you able to exchange contact info with the people you wish to meet?
5. If you’ve attended StatFest in the past, what is something new you wish to learn or experience during StatFest 2021?

**Setting SMART Goals**

To make the most of your experience at StatFest, the tables below are provided for you to think through and define your goals. The format below is based on SMART goals, that is, goals that are **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, and **T**ime-Based. An example is provided.

**Example of creating a SMART Goal** (from a student attendee perspective)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Initial Goal** | *I want to meet with professionals at StatFest.* |
| **S**pecific | Make your goal as specific and detailed as possible. Consider asking yourself: Who is involved in helping me achieve this goal? What actions will I take to achieve this goal? Where and when will I perform such actions to achieve my goal? Why is this goal important to me? |
| *I will meet one professional in each of the 3 sectors: Academia, Government, and Industry. Prior to StatFest, I will browse the biographies listed in the program, create a list of the people I want to meet, and jot down at least 2 questions to ask each one.* |
| **M**easurable | How can you measure progress and that you’ve successfully met your goal? List any milestones or points of progress. |
| *Obtaining their email address or connecting with them on LinkedIn. If they are unable to share contact info, I spoke with them one-on-one and had my questions answered.* |
| **A**chievable | What skills and resources do you have to reasonably attain your goal? |
| *StatFest provides a program booklet that includes professionals and their bio’s. If I’m very interested in specific individuals, I can research more information about them on the web to help me draft questions I have about their profession. I can also initiate conversation and meet with professionals during the networking sessions at StatFest.* |
| **R**elevant | Why is this goal important to you and how does it align with your values? |
| *I value connection and enjoy meeting new people and hearing about their various career trajectories. It’s important for me to hear their stories and seek advice whIle I shape my own career path and determine what career best suits me.* |
| **T**ime-Based | When will you accomplish this goal by? |
| By the end of the conference on Sunday, September 19, 2021. |
| **SMART Goal** | At the end of StatFest on Sunday, 9/19/21, I will have exchanged emails, connected via LinkedIn, or conversed with at least 3 professionals at StatFest by reading their biographies, drafting and asking them my questions, and introducing myself to them during the networking session. |

**SMART GOAL #1**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Initial Goal** |  |
| **S**pecific | Make your goal as specific and detailed as possible. Consider asking yourself: Who is involved in helping me achieve this goal? What actions will I take to achieve this goal? Where and when will I perform such actions to achieve my goal? Why is this goal important to me? |
|  |
| **M**easurable | How can you measure progress and that you’ve successfully met your goal? List any milestones or points of progress if needed. |
|  |
| **A**chievable | What skills and resources do you have to reasonably attain your goal? |
|  |
| **R**elevant | Why is this goal important to you and how does it align with your values? |
|  |
| **T**ime-Based | When will you accomplish this goal by? |
|  |
| **SMART Goal** |  |

**SMART GOAL #2**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Initial Goal** |  |
| **S**pecific | Make your goal as specific and detailed as possible. Consider asking yourself: Who is involved in helping me achieve this goal? What actions will I take to achieve this goal? Where and when will I perform such actions to achieve my goal? Why is this goal important to me? |
|  |
| **M**easurable | How can you measure progress and that you’ve successfully met your goal? List any milestones or points of progress if needed. |
|  |
| **A**chievable | What skills and resources do you have to reasonably attain your goal? |
|  |
| **R**elevant | Why is this goal important to you and how does it align with your values? |
|  |
| **T**ime-Based | When will you accomplish this goal by? |
|  |
| **SMART Goal** |  |

**Questions for Post-Conference**

After attending StatFest, the questions below are provided to help you reflect on your StatFest experience and evaluate whether you fulfilled your goals and intentions at StatFest.

1. Did you achieve your purpose for attending StatFest?
2. What are 2-3 things you learned or gained from attending StatFest?
3. What aspects of your networking worked well?
4. What could be improved?
5. What topics, workshops, panels, or discussions would you like to see more of in future StatFest conferences?