

Wahoo Perspectives

Give Advice. Share Advice.



We are looking for guest bloggers willing to write an editorial called a “Wahoo Perspective.” You may write more than one, but each editorial should be about 300 - 500 words or approximately 4-5 paragraphs. We’re also looking for short video blogs filmed from a personal webcam that are about 1-2 minutes long.

Imagine that you are in an “informational interview” or networking with another alum or parent you’ve asked out for coffee. You want to get know this person and get some tips about things like **leadership skills, networking, volunteering, international travel, organizational skills, social media, career advancement/enhancement, work/life balance or graduate school** based on their experiences. The content we’re looking for offers tips to the entire UVa community instead of just one person. The concept is to write an editorial that provides advice wrapped up in narrative context. Wahoo Perspectives contain short stories and provide tips based on something learned from experiences. No matter how old you are, you’ve got lots of stories to tell!

Your Wahoo Perspective will be posted on the brand new [UVa Global Network website](#) through the Engagement Office and posted on your [UVaClub’s brand new web page](#). This is a great opportunity to share what you’ve learned about the world outside of Charlottesville or something you learned at UVa that profoundly impacted you after graduation. We’d like to help position you as a “thought leader” in your region and even more broadly within the UVa network. Writing a “Wahoo Perspective” is a great way to get your name out there.

There are only two rules! Rule #1: All submissions must either start or end with a question. We want alumni, parents, faculty/staff and students to provide answers or responses to the questions you ask and facilitate an ongoing dialogue. Questions are a great way to facilitate sharing across social media as well. Depending on the topic, you might be addressing an audience of only young alumni, just parents or everyone. Rule #2: is that your Wahoo Perspective is not a place to sell a product or write politically “hot” editorials, but we absolutely want you to share an opinion.

Below are just a few ideas to help you brainstorm about what to write. You might want to offer advice on a totally different topic.

Leadership:

- 1) What advice do you have about developing leadership skills?
- 2) Who in your life exemplifies the characteristics of a great leader? What do they do differently?
- 3) How is leadership like mentoring or coaching? What makes a great mentor?
- 4) Have you ever worked for someone who isn’t a great leader? What did you notice?

Volunteering:

- 1) What impact has philanthropy had on your life? What advice do you have about getting involved?
- 2) How has a Cavaliers Care project made a lasting impression on you? Why should someone participate?
- 3) What did you learn about volunteering while at UVa? What makes a great volunteering opportunity?

Organizational/Skill Set:

- 1) Tell a story about a time when you were unorganized and what the results were. What did you learn?
- 2) What are three crucial skill sets that every professional must have or acquire in order to advance?
- 3) How do you organize your work day? What habits have you discovered work for you in managing your work flow?

4) What skill set is often overlooked but is hugely important for professional growth?

International Travel

- 1) Have you ever lived in another country? What advice do you have for someone following in your footsteps?
- 2) Have you ever experienced culture shock? What did you learn?
- 3) Did you go to graduate school overseas? Was that a good decision?
- 4) What was it like stepping outside your comfort zone while abroad? What did you learn about yourself?

Social Media

- 1) What tips do you have for anyone who wants to use twitter or LinkedIn professionally?
- 2) Why should someone strive to become a “thought leader” and how is that accomplished?
- 3) How could a young graduate use social media to find a job?
- 4) What three things should someone never, ever do using social media?

Career Advancement

- 1) If someone wanted to have a job like yours, what are the three most important things to consider?
- 2) What have you learned about interpersonal communication and career growth?
- 3) What are the three most important qualities of a great manager?
- 4) What’s your opinion on “job hopping”? Are some industries more welcoming to short stints on a resume?
- 5) Have you ever lost a job? What did you learn about yourself? What did you do?

Work/Life Balance

- 1) What tips do you have balancing work with the needs of starting or having a family?
- 2) How do you add fitness or wellness activities into your life? What sacrifices must be made?
- 3) What’s the secret to a happy marriage or partnership?
- 4) Are you a part of a family business? How has that impacted your relationships with family members?

Graduate School

- 1) Are there some professions or industries where it doesn’t make financial sense to go to graduate school?
- 2) What tips do you have on picking the right graduate school? Is it about the ranking or the people?
- 3) How do you manage a family, go to graduate school and hold down a job? What advice do you have?

We’re also looking for relationship success stories, both personal and professional, that showcase how great the UVa Global Network can be for someone who gets involved.

- 1) Did you meet your spouse or partner at a UVaClub event?
- 2) What job or business relationship was a result of participating in an aspect of the UVa Global Network?
- 3) Who did you meet through the UVa Global Network that helped you out in a tough time?

Another type of Wahoo Perspective is to offer localized reviews or recommendations about restaurants, schools, networking opportunities and events. This is a great way to add content to your UVaClubs new web page!

Examples:

- 1) What restaurant just opened near you that everyone must try?
- 2) Do you have a recommendation on a day care or charter school in your city?
- 3) What’s a new or up-and-coming neighborhood that would be great for young graduates?

Submitting a Wahoo Perspective is a great way to give back to the University of Virginia and “pay-it-forward” on behalf of anyone who helped you grow personally and professionally. If you would like to write a Wahoo Perspective, please contact Ryan Catherwood (ryan.catherwood@virginia.edu) @RyanCatherwood or @HoosNetwork on twitter.