Tips on how to write a compelling essay for Woodring College of Education scholarship applications

1. Consider this a great opportunity to convey information about yourself. What qualities do you possess that align with the essay prompt, listed on the application form? What do you hope to gain in Woodring’s program that will help you further develop those characteristics?

2. Be aware that applications are reviewed by committees of faculty members from the area of Woodring College of Education relevant to your program or intended program of study. Committees are looking for the most promising candidates in their field. They want to know more about you as a person, not another list of your accomplishments and activities.

3. Convey your message effectively by:
   - Being organized – consider the topic, develop a plan or theme
   - Being clear – write to the point and consider your audience
   - Being creative – try different approaches and find one that works for you
   - Using active verbs - don’t put your readers to sleep
   - Being original - Avoid clichés and vague phrases that have no meaning.

4. Using specific real-life examples to enrich and personalize each point and make your essay stand out. Explain why they are important.

For more tips, visit the WWU Scholarship website:
http://www.finaid.wwu.edu/scholarships/pages/general_information.php

Other sites such as Fastweb, a free Internet Scholarship search service, provide extensive tips on this and other scholarship application topics:
http://www.fastweb.com/fastweb/resources/articles/index/100037?id