About my project:

This project takes stock of the "writing skill ecosystem" of students in the School of Information. Through surveys and interviews with faculty and students, this research will highlight:

- How students perceive their writing skills
- How faculty members perceive student writing skills
- What resources students currently have at their disposal
- What additional resources might help students advance their skills

My aim is to uncover any problems that students face in their writing, and identify fruitful areas to provide more support. What I find will inform how I teach my own writing-oriented classes, and will be useful information to SI faculty and curriculum leadership.

What have you accomplished this semester as a CTL Fellow?

- I created a robust student survey to gather data about their writing skills, and sent it to School of Information students. Currently, I have 18 responses, although I'd like more, so I'll send a reminder email now that finals are over.

- I interviewed Claire Donato as a first point of contact, to help me map out other writing programs at Pratt. She identified other writing faculty to contact for future interviews.

- I have gotten great input from Maura, Judit, and my fellow CTL fellows to shape and steer my project.

What did you learn, what are your important takeaways so far?

I'm still amassing survey data, but the survey responders so far rate their writing skills and experience positively.

To make a survey that was well-designed to generate good data was a larger undertaking than I thought, but I got great consultation and feedback, and I think it's a great tool.

I have a better understanding of what full-time faculty members are teaching in their classes, and I'm starting to understand what other writing programs, courses, and resources exist at Pratt.

Do you feel like you accomplished the goals you've set for yourself? How will your project continue, evolve or change in the next semester?

I'm about a quarter of the way through my project, so I'll need to accelerate my pace. This summer, I'll analyze the survey data, interview at least 3 students, and finish the faculty survey, to be sent out in the fall. I feel confident that my actions will help me accomplish the goals I set out: This project is exploratory in nature, and I am learning trends and areas of focus.

By the numbers:

- 1 student survey created
- 6 faculty members gave input on the survey design
- 2 instructional designers advised on the survey design
- 15 students participated in a brainstorm and tested the survey
- 18 student survey responses (with plans to recruit more)
- 5 students who are interested in participating in an interview
- 1 interview with Pratt writing faculty / assistant dean, Claire Donato

Supplemental materials:

Link to student survey: https://forms.gle/bV8vUDA3h2VntXeU6

Note that this link takes you to a Google form that is for reviewers only. You can take this survey yourself without mixing in your data with the student results.