

Champagne Problems? Sometimes Students Just Don't Know the Answer. Examining How Substance (Mis)Use Resources Provide Support and Aid in the Persistence of Indiana University Students

Reflections from the Team



Kenneth Brown Jr. (he/him)

I have had a good GAP Experience this semester. While it has many moving pieces that naturally comes with working with others on a complex assignment, it has been a joy. It has also been fascinating learning more about an issue that is facing most of the country (Substance Use among young people). As someone who wants to help higher education works to truly support all students, I understand how integral research and assessment is to figure out what is working and emerging and use that information to fine-tune programs and initiatives.

Leah Bushey (she/her)

GAP has been an exciting learning experience for me! As someone who has only ever conducted more "casual" forms of research, this process has been incredibly informative. I hope to continue to develop my research and assessment skills in the future, as I feel that these practices are critical to use within the process of working to better student experiences. I also want to give a huge thank you to my amazing GAP teammates for being so supportive and hard-working!



Dimitri Heath (he/they)

GAP this year was challenging but taught me the ability to adapt and push outside of my comfort zone when necessary. I find continuous and rigorous research in higher education and student affairs valuable because the culture surrounding student affairs is always in motion. If we do not have up-to-date research, it would be difficult as professionals to address the issues in a way that is beneficial to the institution and its students. I hope that I can continue to build these skills as a researcher as I continue my career in student affairs.

Joe Reyes (they/them)

My experience with GAP assisted me in understanding the need for grounding assessment with the learning outcomes and goals of the program or unit being assessed, as well as striving to apply theory to one's practice. I also now view the importance of the collecting when engaging with research. Having a multitude of perspectives, backgrounds, and skillsets is important for critically engaging with the research questions and ensuring your team is prepared for each component of the assessment process.



Austin Van Horn (he/him)

GAP was an exceptional time for me. It helped foster my passion for assessment. I believe that assessment is a valuable tool for both students and staff. It helps ensure that students are being served well and that staff are working well with them.