Overworked and Underpaid: Manifestations of Burnout Among Student Affairs Professionals at Indiana University Bloomington

Reflections from the Team



Jonathan Ada (he/him)

More than all other previous group projects, GAP truly demonstrated the importance of group dynamics. I am both honored and humbled to have worked with such driven, intelligent, and supportive individuals of Team Burnout. I am confidant moving forward the knowledge and skills gained through the GAP project and from my GAP team members will undoubtedly serve me well. Though research and assessment are not categories I would count as any of my interests, I recognize the value it can have for people in any given environment. If I am to serve people well, then I must constantly research and assess my environment to ensure a safe and welcoming one.

Anna Riley (she/her)

This GAP experience has allowed me to have insightful conversations with student affairs professionals about their experiences of burn out. I believe it is equally important to do research and assessment of staff experiences as well as students. If staff are struggling in their environments, then they will not be in the place they need to be to help students. I am excited to share the current state of burnout of student affairs professionals at IU Bloomington to raise awareness for needed change.





Meg Tobin (she/her)

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I enjoyed my experience in GAP this semester for many reasons. The course and GAP project allowed me to gain experience in applying theoretical frameworks to our work in student affairs, utilizing environmental assessment, and executing research development and methodologies. I am thankful for the experience because it allowed me to be able to explore an assessment topic I am interested in and learn about assessment procedures alongside my GAP team throughout the entire process. Gaining a deep understanding of environmental theory and assessment will allow me to create a high-quality environment that is supportive of student learning and success moving forward into my career as a student affairs professional. Huge thanks to my GAP group, my professor Maurice Shirley, and our groups GAP mentor Daniel Lersch.

Will Walker (he/him)
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As someone who cares a lot about research as a hobby and profession, I am excited to say that GAP has provided me yet another opportunity to practice research design, data collection, analysis, and writing. I am thankful for these experiences because they will continue to shape research projects that I conduct in the future.

