

## Board Members

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James Sanders

### Vice President

Sharmyne Evans

### Secretary

Adrian Wade

### Treasurer

Teja Plyler

### Members at Large

Brittany Cipollone

David Connor

Linda Rowland

## Resources

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[airweb.org](http://airweb.org)

[sair.org](http://sair.org)

[sacscoc.org](http://sacscoc.org)

[nces.ed.gov](http://nces.ed.gov)

# GAIRPAQ

Georgia Association for Institutional Research, Planning, Assessment, and Quality

## Fall 2020 Newsletter

Greetings GAIRPAQ members and associates,

First of all, I hope that you and your families are all doing well and staying safe in this once-in-a-lifetime pandemic environment called COVID-19. In late March, when most of us were told to pack up and work from home, I had no idea that over six months later, the need for being socially distant from colleagues and friends would still exist. Nevertheless, we have continued to provide Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment support for our respective institutions and contribute to student success.

It was also in March that the GAIRPAQ Executive Committee was in the final stages of planning for GAIRPAQ Conference 2020. We were so excited to be hosting the conference for the first time during summer at a venue where members could mix business with pleasure in the form of a weekend family excursion. Delighted to have brilliant conference speakers to present and share their insights about Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment, we looked forward to a world-class convening. Although circumstances led us to cancel our meeting this year amid pandemic concerns, we look forward to 2021 when we can once again network face-to-face; gain new in-sights; and carry out the business of GAIRPAQ.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to the GAIRPAQ executive board who have worked diligently over the past year on conference planning, bylaw amendments, and ensuring that GAIRPAQ remains viable to its membership. I also say thank you for allowing me to serve as Vice President and now President of GAIRPAQ. It has allowed me to further develop my administrative skills by leading a first-rate professional organization that is so valuable to its members and the institutions that we serve. My wish for each of you is continued good health, professional advancement, and better days ahead!

James E. Sanders

President, GAIRPAQ

***Georgia Association for Institutional Research, Planning, Assessment and Quality***

## Upcoming Conference – June 17-18, 2021

Callaway Resort & Gardens  
100 Meadow View Lane  
Pine Mountain, GA 31822

## Treasurer's Report

GAIRPAQ Treasurer's Report for 2019-2020		
7/1/2019	Beginning Balance	
	\$ 2,667.42	(GAIRPAQ checking account)
	Conference Income	
\$ 8,697.68	(Conference Income)	
	Expenses	
\$ 1,000.00	(Vendor Payment - Callaway Gardens)	
6/17/2020	Current Balance	
	\$ 10,365.10	(GAIRPAQ checking account)
	Expenses	
	\$ 84.30	(Printing Fliers, Website renewal, State of GA registration fee)
	Deposits	
	\$ 500.00	(AIR's contribution towards the "best presentation" winner)
	Estimated Conference Income	
\$ -	(Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, no conference income noted)	
Expected Year End Balance		
\$ 10,780.80	(GAIRPAQ checking account)	
Prepared by Teja Plyler 9/25/2020		
<b>Notes:</b>		
\$1,000.00 is being set aside for the best presentation contest prize winner.		

### Logo Contest!

Our current GAIRPAQ logo has been in existence for many years, and the Board has decided we'd like a fresh look.



Your New Logo!!

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Please put on your graphic design hats and submit your best efforts for our new logo to [linda.rowland@ung.edu](mailto:linda.rowland@ung.edu). Winner gets bragging rights for years to come!

### Announcements:

- Thanks to all who attended the virtual GAIRPAQ meeting at SAIR
- Here are highlights from our recent GAIRPAQ Member COVID-19 Pulse Check Survey:
  - We had 11 respondents and most report working remotely and in IR
  - 58% report feeling "Ok", "Good", or "Great" since the start of the 2020-21 academic year
  - Nearly half of respondents cited human interaction as the resource they miss the most
- The SACSCOC Annual Meeting is being held virtually December 2-9, 2020

## Website

[gairpaq.org](http://gairpaq.org)

## Presentation Highlight from GAIRPAQ 2020 Cancelled Conference

### National Data Reveal the Positive Contributions of Study Abroad - Particularly for Underrepresented Groups

The Consortium for Analysis of Student Success through International Education (CASSIE) is a federally funded research initiative led by the University System of Georgia which uses big data to understand impacts of education abroad on student success. Using a student sample from 36 institutions across the country and controlling for confounding factors using exact and nearest neighbor matching, students who study abroad are found to have greater college success than students who do not study abroad. Specifically, education abroad students have: 1) greater probability of graduating in 6 years, 2) fewer semesters to degree and 3) higher GPA at graduation.

The CASSIE dataset allows for analysis of subgroups including underrepresented minorities, first-generation students, and students receiving need-based aid. For all three subgroups, those who studied abroad had the same patterns of outcomes noted above, but with a greater differential. For example, first-generation students who studied abroad were 6.5 percentage points more likely to graduate in six years than first-generation students who did not; non-first-generation students who studied abroad were 3.2 percentage points more likely to graduate in six years.

CASSIE findings point to the objective benefit provided by a study abroad experience, especially for students underrepresented in study abroad.

#### Links:

1. [CASSIE webpage](#)
2. [CASSIE Infographic: Underrepresented Minority vs. Not Underrepresented Minority](#)

#### Contact:

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Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia

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## Pass It On . . .

Please help us expand our impact by forwarding this newsletter to anyone else in your area that might benefit from joining GAIRPAQ for FREE this year!! Email [bcipollo@augusta.edu](mailto:bcipollo@augusta.edu) to become a member.