



Motivate Lab

CREATING PRODUCTIVE LEARNING MINDSETS IN GEORGIA



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

OUR COLLABORATION

To increase the number of adults holding a post-secondary degree from 38% to 60% by 2025, the University System of Georgia is partnering with the Motivate Lab to co-create a plan that infuses **mindset-supportive practices** throughout Georgia’s higher education system.

Collaboratively, we will implement a design process that rigorously tests changes in educational practices at every level of the institutional and university-system structure. Our learnings will be applied in other states to infuse higher education institutions with mindset-supportive practices.

LEARNING MINDSETS

Mindsets are our beliefs and perceptions about learning. They shape how we interpret difficulty, and research shows they are critical predictors of academic performance, persistence, and motivation. We are primarily interested in three main learning mindsets.



GROWTH MINDSET:
Belief that intelligence can be developed



PURPOSE AND VALUE:
Belief that schoolwork is valuable because it’s personally relevant



SOCIAL BELONGING:
Belief that one is connected to and respected by peers, cared for by teachers and mentors, and fits in with the culture

OUR RESEARCH PROCESS

SCIENTIFIC RIGOR



DESIGN PRINCIPLES

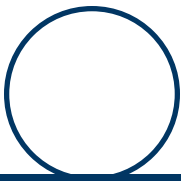


STRONG PARTNERSHIPS



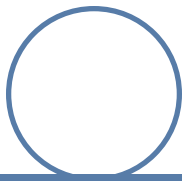
SOLUTION-FOCUSED, ACTION-ORIENTED RESEARCH

By combining psychological science with design thinking and researcher-practitioner partnerships, we instigate positive change in institutions, from the individual to the policy level. We utilize best practices in design-based research, randomized control trials, and improvement science to find optimal solutions to meet our partners’ needs.



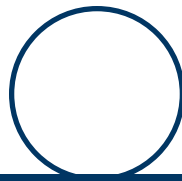
EMPATHIZE & LEARN

Understand the problem and context by listening to stakeholders



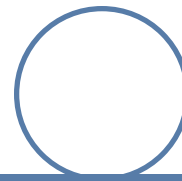
SYNTHESIZE & PLAN

Consolidate learning and develop next steps



PROTOTYPE

Customize interventions informed by data, feedback, and theory



TEST INTERVENTIONS

Start small, fail fast, utilize those learnings to scale up across the system

JOURNEY TO FOSTERING PRODUCTIVE LEARNING MINDSETS



EMPATHIZE & LEARN

WHAT WE DID

ADVISING ACADEMY

OCTOBER 2017

Participated in panel on successfully transitioning to college and worked with advisors to think through best advising practices

STUDENT SURVEY

FALL 2017

Surveyed first year students at all USG schools about their learning mindsets, future goals, and reasons for attending college. These data are being connected to academic records and analyses are ongoing

MOMENTUM SUMMIT

FEBRUARY 2018

Consulted with representatives from USG institutions about how to incorporate learning mindsets into Momentum Year planning

STRONG START TO FINISH GRANT

JANUARY 2018

Participated in the construction of a collaboration with multiple institutions (e.g., Complete College America, Gardner Institute) to cultivate productive academic mindsets and increase degree attainment

WHAT WE'RE DOING

SITE VISITS

APRIL 2018

Meeting formally and informally with students, faculty, staff, and key personnel at several schools in the USG system to understand the school climate and student experience

Conducting classroom observations to gain insight into students' educational experience

MINDSET SUMMIT

MAY 2018

Leading a meeting about how to infuse mindset supportive practices into all levels of the USG system

UP NEXT...



SYNTHESIZE & PLAN

SUMMER 2018

Use learnings to:

Identify optimal areas to implement learning mindset interventions

Select evidence-based interventions to increase appropriate learning mindsets

Customize interventions for student populations and schools

Identify high-leverage areas for additional mindset-supportive activities



PROTOTYPE

FALL 2018 - SPRING 2019

Work with institutions to:

Implement customized, evidence-based interventions at a few partner schools

Provide tailored faculty and staff training on learning mindsets

Monitor changes in students' learning mindsets and suggest modifications or additional activities



TEST

SPRING 2019 ONWARD

Partner with stakeholders to:

Rigorously test intervention effectiveness

Scale interventions to more colleges and contexts

Expand trainings to additional faculty and staff

Learn from early findings and identify keys for success in scaling up mindset-supportive practices

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking to solicit your help and feedback at every step of this process. For more information on the work we do, contact:

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