

## **Research Incentive Fund Report**

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We are very grateful to have received an InULA Research Incentive grant for FY 2016-2017. The grant was applied to hiring a research assistant for data input, student observation, and computing our research data. Our raw data is being shared with both the InULA Executive Board, and the National Survey of Student Engagement under the auspices of Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education.

Research Title & Abstract: "Learning with Peers: A survey of the IUB Libraries interactions with sophomores, juniors, and seniors from underrepresented groups." The 2016 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) "Learning with Peers" Faculty Summit indicator report revealed that 78% of undergraduates stated that they had interacted/learned with students from a different ethnicity or race, while only 10% of faculty perceived this to be true.

The purpose and goal of this research was to:

- Compare NSSE-reported student perceptions on diversity of collaborative learning groups with the perceptions of: a) IUB library student users who identify as members of underrepresented groups; b) IUB library faculty, and c) IUB library paraprofessionals
- Observe/record diverse composition of study groups, and interactions with library paraprofessionals
- Help shape the development and implementation of programs to increase student engagement as a result of collection and analyzing student-user survey responses.

We are grateful to InULA for the grant, and look forward to publishing the results in *InULA Notes*. This research project would not have been possible without the wonderful support provided by the InULA Research Incentive Fund.