

AFMIX

Capstone Project

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As I reflect on my AFMIX experience and the totality of what it meant I have to go back to the original ask of joining the program. Admittedly when the program was initially proposed to me I was reluctant. My initial reaction was skeptical at best, and my largest question was “How in the world would a program about Ignation and Xavier help me in my career here at Xavier, and there is no way it relates to having students pay their bill.” After 2 years in the program and a pandemic I have learned the answer to those initial questions and more. The short answer is it relates everywhere I turn, and not only in my professional life but my life outside of Xavier as well.

The largest area of impact was actually outside of Xavier, on the Christian High School Soccer team I coach. I found the days we had AFMIX frequently quoting and reiterating the lessons we learned. These lessons allowed a team of high school teenagers to find more in their sport, their daily life and new ways to apply these teachings. I frequently used some of St. Ignatius’ teachings as part of our weekly spiritual reflection sessions. These teachings along with others, such as Pedro Arrupe, were even included in our pregame motivation. As a coach at a Christian school the freedom to use these teachings is a blessing, the ability to share them with others outside of Xavier is rewarding. I believe bringing these additional perspectives to the team helped them through a difficult year and time in their life.

Now when people ask me about the program, I am definitely not skeptical. This is a program that is vital to our university and to daily life. Thank you to all who work tirelessly to keep this going. I has had a profound impact on my life.