DO YOU G.A.S. YOUR LEARNERS?

KRISTY CROCKER, Health and Public Safety Simulation Specialist/Coordinator, Blackhawk Technical College



We can memorize theoretical knowledge, and we can practice the skill that correlates with that knowledge over and over. In the end, we hope that our students understand why those two things need to come together and how priority, timing, skill, and experience help form the result. Regardless of the outcome of the simulation, educators need to know how to answer the following questions:

- If a scenario is the **first exposure** to a **new learning** experience, how do we measure the efficacy of the simulation or the performance of the student?
- Can the student have a successful learning experience regardless of the outcome?
- How does an instructor evaluate a learner's experience and/or performance without using a formal formative or summative evaluation tool?
- Where does constructive feedback fit into the equation of a good debrief following a simulation?

It is important to use a good debrief framework following a simulation because the most important aspect of a simulation is the learner's reflection and perspective. Using the Gather, Analyze, and Summarize (G.A.S.) model, I can answer all 4 of those questions in detail based on my observations of the learner during their simulation but most importantly, during their personal reflection. I will provide you with the tools and examples of how to use this framework in your simulations and how to have support from your colleagues when introducing new methods.

I am Kristy Crocker and I am the health and public safety simulation specialist/coordinator for BTC. I design and deliver realistic and immersive learning experiences for students and professionals in the field to aid in learning and practice of specific skills for continued growth in health and public safety professions. I am dual certified as a certified healthcare simulation educator (CHSE) and a certified healthcare simulation operation specialist (CHSOS). I am a registered respiratory therapist and the program director for the upcoming RT program at BTC that we hope will start in 2026. I have worked general floor care, ICU, L & D, NICU, Pulmonary Rehab, Homecare, and Sleep Medicine over the last 18 years. My experiences in the clinical setting have enabled me to learn and bring relevance to the simulation scenarios that I develop and run. Over the last 8 years at Blackhawk, I have been able to focus on educational theories for adult learners and it has helped me research and mainstream important frameworks into the sim program that are necessary for successful adult learning experiences and proper reflection.