Medical School through a Learning Community Lens

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Learning communities (LCs) consist of people with shared interests who engage in collaborative learning and “foster active over passive learning, cooperation over competition, and community over isolation” (Cross, 1998, p 5).

LCs are congruent with the changing epistemologies of knowledge, are supported by research, and educate students for “lives of work and service” (Cross, 1998, p. 11).

Historically considered a fiercely competitive environment, some schools of medicine have embraced the LC philosophy. When viewed through the lens of a LC, it becomes evident that Wright State University’s Boonshoft School of Medicine with its defining culture, academics, and environment embodies this ideology.