

Learning Communities Monthly



Happy New Year from the LC Program

I hope everyone is doing well, and you each had time to relax over the holiday break.

The LC Program was busy at the end of 2022. I presented at the National Learning Community Conference in Phoenix Arizona, along with our amazing LC colleagues: Lauren Scott and Lynita Taylor from the Mike Ilitch School of Business and Marla Garmo from CHAMPS. This was the first in-person NLCC since 2019, and it was a great opportunity to hear about LC successes and challenges from the past few years.

I am proud to announce that I have been elected to the role of President -Elect for the National Learning Community Association, which is the beginning of a three-year term in which I will serve as acting President in 2023-24. The National Learning Community Association (NLCA) began in 2015 to build a network of learning communities professionals and has become a great resource for knowledge sharing on learning community theories, policies, practices, programs, and professional development. NLCA membership is FREE, and I strongly encourage each of you to become a member. As members of the NLCA you will have access to LC focused workshops and professional development sessions, LC research, a LC-themed email list, and the opportunity to build connections with LC colleagues from across the country. More information can be found at: <https://www.lcassociation.org/about-us.html>

The LC Program is currently collecting and reviewing LC Assessment data from fall 2022. We worked closely with Dr. Cathy Barrette, Director of Assessment at WSU to update and launch our surveys for LC Coordinators, LC Peer Mentors and LC students. We will have another round of surveys available in April to gather LC data for the "end" of this academic year.

We are excited to have launched our Request for Proposal for 2023-24 Learning Communities. The deadline for submission is January 20, 2023. You can find more details on our website: <https://wayne.edu/learning-communities/faculty/propose>

We look forward to working with each of you and your LCs this semester. Keep an eye out for upcoming LC Coordinator meetings and Peer Mentor professional development sessions.

Yours in community,
Amy Cooper
Manager of the Learning Community Program

January 2023

Save the Date!

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Important Dates:

1/19 at 3:30 pm
Peer Mentor Professional
Development
In-person, Academic Success
Center (UGL 1600)

1/20 – LC Proposals Due

1/23 at 3 pm
LC Coordinator Meeting
[Click here to join the Teams meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 220 872 205 756
Passcode: FSdpV9

1/27 – Winter LC Cohorts Due

2022 NLCC Wrap Up



Left photo: Lauren Scott and Lynita Taylor presented on the MPREP Scholars LC.

Middle photo: Marla Garmo presenting about the CHAMPS LC.

Right photo: Amy Cooper and colleagues from Learning Communities at Iowa State, Kyle Holtman and Jen Leptien, presented on assessing the quality aspects of high impact practices.

Spotlight on the 2022 National Learning Community Conference

by Marla Garmo, CHAMPS LC Coordinator

I was delighted to attend the National Learning Community Conference in Phoenix, Arizona on November 18th and 19th. This conference was a source of renewal and regeneration for me and my role as a learning community coordinator. I enjoyed sharing my experience of supporting students from foster care and the excellent conversations regarding support for this population through learning communities. In addition to the connections that were made, friendships were strengthened, and purposes restored. The most impactful part of the conference was the presentation from Brad Lancaster, a water conservation advocate. He presented us with the challenges he faces fighting administrative and bureaucratic systems to rethink water usage. Conference participants were then tasked to use this example apply it to our own systems and fight the narrative of "this is how we have always done things".

Like water in the desert, a scarce resource that is necessary for sustainability, we too represent a resource that is necessary for student success. The beauty of the desert is that it reminds us to reimagine our work in changing climates and to continually rethink our support for students.