The Perfect Storm:
Transferring Knowledge to a Deeper Understanding

Action Research Project

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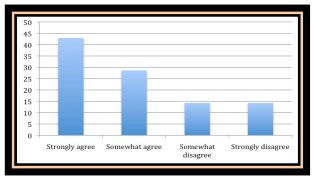
The Research Problem: Dental Hygiene students' inability to transfer knowledge from didactic course to a deep understanding during the provision

Actions Taken

- Implementation of a wiki
- Redesigned courses utilizing Understanding by Design model
- Implementation of discussion board
- Implementation of peer led discussions
- Initiation of discussions on the definition of a "deeper understanding" with faculty
- Observation of wiki and demonstration of a deep understanding by students
- Student surveys
- Faculty surveys



Faculty's responds to students' ability to demonstrate a deep understanding on antibiotics

Observations and Outcomes

- Students felt wiki somewhat facilitated a deeper understanding

Word Cloud on Influence of Endocrine Disorders on the Periodontium

- Students felt peer led discussions had many advantages and some disadvantages
- Faculty members felt the stronger students were able to demonstrate a deep understanding but the weaker students were not
- Faculty members were inconsistent with their expectations and definition of deep understanding

Reflections

- Forces working against each other I didn't recognized
- Constructivism is not well understood and isn't the predominate learning theory
- Importance of the course design
- My passion for this ARP
- Leadership skills
- Mentoring opportunities
- Priorities are not in alignment with my goals and passion

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