Dear SSOM Class of 2020,

As you begin the transition to medical school, you may find that some of the learning strategies and techniques that have made you successful in the past don’t always generalize well to medical school. This may be because of the change in the nature of the tasks, assessments, or the learning environment, just to name a few. You will also find that the number of resources is vast and overwhelming, and some of those resources have a strong evidence base behind them that is underemphasized in higher education. Stritch encourages a thoughtful, evidence-based approach to learning that emphasizes self-appraisal and the growth mind-set, namely that abilities are developed through effort rather than merely being fixed traits. The Academic Center for Excellence and Accessibility (ACE) at Stritch would like you to complete a survey (Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire (MSLQ)) that was written by Pintrich, Smith, Garcia, and McKeachie at the University of Michigan and adapted for medical students. The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather insight into your cognitive strategies, resource management, and motivation toward learning in medical school. Please complete the questionnaire on SurveyMonkey at the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5CVXTSF.

After you complete your survey, you can schedule an interview with myself or my colleague Tonja Killingham (tkillingham@luc.edu) to discuss your learning profile and how you might best facilitate the transition to medical school and incorporate the best evidence from the learning sciences in to your approach. Please email any of us with questions or email Tina Calcagno (tcalcagno@luc.edu) to schedule your meeting. We look forward to meeting with you and wish you the best in your studies at Stritch.

Best Regards,

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