

SPEAKING OF EDUCATION - II*

Richard M. Felder

If a doctor, lawyer, or dentist had 40 people in his office at one time, all of whom had different needs, and some of whom didn't want to be there and were causing trouble, and the doctor, lawyer, or dentist, without assistance, had to treat them all with professional excellence for nine months, then he might have some conception of the classroom teacher's job. (Donald D. Quinn)

Thoroughly to teach another is the best way to learn for yourself. (Tryon Edwards)

You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother. (Albert Einstein)

It is noble to be good, and it is nobler to teach others to be good—and less trouble! (Mark Twain)

The task of the excellent teacher is to stimulate “apparently ordinary” people to unusual effort. The tough problem is not in identifying winners: it is in making winners out of ordinary people. (K. Patricia Cross)

I am not impressed by the Ivy League establishments. Of course they graduate the best: it's all they take, leaving to others the problem of educating the country. They will give you an education the way the banks will give you money, provided you can prove to their satisfaction that you don't need it. (Peter De Vries)

One mark of a great educator is the ability to lead students out to new places where even the educator has never been. (Thomas Groome)

When you teach well, it always seems as if 75% of the students are above the median. (Jerome Bruner)

If at first you do succeed, try to hide your astonishment. (Source unknown)

Picture yourself in France in a cave with prehistoric drawings on the wall. These drawings tell a story and were perhaps the first use of technology for educational purposes. Now, thousands of years later, professors are still drawing on walls! (Source unknown)

The best learners...often make the worst teachers. They are, in a very real sense, perceptually challenged. They cannot imagine what it must be like to struggle to learn something that comes so naturally to them. (Stephen Brookfield)

The vanity of teaching often tempteth a man to forget he is a blockhead. (George Savile)

Football combines the two worst elements of American society: violence and committee meetings. (Herb Childress)

University politics are vicious precisely because the stakes are so small. (Henry Kissinger)

* *Chem. Engr. Education*, 33(3), 196-197 (Summer 1999).

The teachers who get “burned out” are not the ones who are constantly learning, which can be exhilarating, but those who feel they must stay in control and ahead of the students at all times. (Frank Smith)

When Pablo Casals reached ninety-five, a young reporter asked him a question: “Mr. Casals, you are ninety-five and the greatest cellist who ever lived. Why do you still practice six hours a day?” Casals answered, “Because I think I’m making progress.”

Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Louis Pasteur, Michelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson and Albert Einstein. (H. Jackson Brown, Jr.)

Ninety-five percent of this game is half mental. (Yogi Berra)

I can't give you a brain, but I can give you a degree. (The Wizard of Oz)