Dealing with Dreams

- A Teacher’s Perspective

Prof. Sugata Sanyal
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
INDIA
Email: sanyal@tifr.res.in
Homepage: http://www.tifr.res.in/~sanyal
Today’s Talk

- About ours
- About university and college teachers from different state with diverse background...
- But common in one thing..
- Making shape of young people on the process of making our dreams.
- On looking back, with the background of more than three and half decades, I feel our profession is about....
About our profession: It is about

- Our childhood dreams
- Enabling the dreams of others
- Lessons learned: how can we achieve our dreams or enable the dreams of others
Our childhood dreams

Being a teacher gives a unique opportunity to achieve our childhood dreams without changing jobs. Be it be:

- Actor
- Writer
- Performer
- Musician
- Being a loved one
- A cartoon character..
- A laughing stock……….!
I am told there are 5 different types of teachers:

- The Controversy
- The Wreck
- The Sage
- The Flatliner
- The Demagogue
Types of professors: The Controversy

- The Controversy feeds on shock, on sending closed-minded students running to the authorities with complaints.

- One may recognize the Controversy by its dress: very unconventional, as it prefers to dress outside the lines. Their dress code can include unmatched combinations, black-rimmed glasses etc.

- They may also be identified by the impish grin on their faces after saying something inappropriate.
Types of professors: The Wreck

- A mad look that says that they could just reach out and strangle the life out of you at the slightest hint of mockery.
- The Wreck is a teacher on the brink of a nervous breakdown. Something has the Wreck seriously stressed out- spouse left, dog died, alcoholic son, whatever.
- In the Wreck’s classroom a loose tongue can get you into deep water.
The Sage stands at the front of the classroom and spouts multi-layered sayings with the most serene and enlightened countenance possible.

One of academia and achieve scholastic nirvana, surely this professor knows his worth.

Students do not question in the Sage’s class; they merely bask in the Sage’s glory.

Do expect, however, extensive research papers and projects meant to carry to the next sphere of existence.
Types of professors: The Flatliner

- Flatliner is in some kind of comatose state between life and death.
- With their gray pallor, lifeless eyes, and slothlike movements, it is easy to identify them.
- How they are able to come to class on schedule, murmur through hour-long lectures, assess papers is a mystery to modern science.
- Almost without fail, the Flatliner’s presence in a classroom will have students slipping into the same comatose state.
Types of professors: The Demagogue

- They enjoy celebrity status with the student body.
- They get invited to students’ weddings, functions etc.
- Students emerge from their lectures beaming or with tear-stained cheeks.
- The Demagogue is best recognized by the confidence and star power that oozes from their pores.
- They are often accompanied by an entourage of admirers.
- However, the rest of the faculty live in bitter envy of the Demagogue…!
My experience as a teacher

Experience is what you get when you didn’t get what you wanted.

*(Pl give some anecdote)*
“So it is nice to work on childhood dreams..”
Enabling the dreams of others
Present scenario of higher education

- Quality deterioration in science education.
- Low motivation for teaching
- Lack of new ideas in research.
- Poor career mobility for original researchers.
- Lack of support systems....
The solution

- If you look at it in a normal manner, you might get hurt.

- But if you try to learn from it, it makes you challenge yourself to go beyond the extra line and you only become better.

- You need to learn with an open mind. And you may not get a direct monetary benefit. Mostly you will not.

- But it teaches you to handle situations which you may not imagine possible.
Helping to realise dreams

- The beauty of working for somebody’s dreams is quite a nice feeling.

- Helping, shaping and guiding and seeing that it becomes fruitful is a great achievement.

- That is what we all do every day, most of the time without knowing.
We need to motivate our children to think originally and to be innovative.

We need to understand that all children need not be computer scientists or MBAs, in the India of the 21st century;

We need to rethink about research areas.

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Lessons Learned...
Other people who help us

- Parents
- Teachers
- Mentors
- Friends
- Colleagues
- Sometimes complete strangers
How to Get People to Help You

- You can’t get there alone, we need others
- Tell the truth
- Be earnest
- Apologize when you screw up
- Focus on others, not yourself.
- Get a feedback and listen to it.
- Show gratitude.
- Don’t complaint, just work hard.
Important Advice

- Be good at something: it makes you valuable
- Work hard … “that should be your secret?”
- Find the best in everybody; no matter how you have to wait for them to show it
- Be prepared: “luck” is where preparation meets opportunity
Childhood dreams

Enabling the dreams of others

Lessons learned: how you can achieve your dreams or enable the dreams of others
It’s not about how to achieve your dreams. It’s about how to lead your life. If you lead your life the right way, the karma will take care of itself. The dreams will come to you. Have good dreams and let that dream come true.

Best of luck..!!
Thank You
NOTE: TO ALL:

I AM ATTACHING THIS Slide Set TO MY WEB-PAGE.

I will not be available for general query and answer
I will be available through
Ms. Jyotshna J Dongadive, Head, CS, Mumbai University

Prof. Sugata Sanyal, TIFR, INDIA; 28-Jan-2010