Strategies for Working with Gifted Undergraduate Students of Mathematics

Zohreh Shahbazi September 24, 2011 University of Toronto Scarborough

My definition of giftedness:

Great hunger for learning in one or several areas

Question 1

How do gifted students do in university programs compared to regular students?

Will participation in a gifted program in high school contribute to university success?

Question 2

Do we need to give special attention to gifted students in higher education?

A good manager is the one that uses all the resources efficiently and effectively.

Taylor, F. W. (1967). *The Principles of Scientific Management*. New York: Norton(Originally published: New York : Harper & Bros., 1911).

- University students are mature to find their success path.
- The programs typically are challenging for gifted adults.
- Having a broad range of programs enables students to select and sometime even design their own programs
- The structure of courses in higher education does not allow us to know enough about students learning.

Short Term Plan

- Identify Gifted Students (by using collaborative learning techniques, creating class discussions, office hours)
- Create opportunities for them to be involved in higher order thinking (challenge problems)
- Provide opportunities for critical discussion (seminars)
- Create opportunities for high level tutoring, coaching or other instruction.

Creativity

- Overall, there appears to be a general emphasis in the literature of linking 'giftedness' with either quantitative measures of IQ or academic performance.
- There are some references in the literature to high levels of creativity and there are some links made with certain types of both.