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There has been a great deal of interest in the relationship between emotional intelligence and teaching skills. *The EQ Edge* discusses, in particular, elementary and secondary school teachers, as well as principals. A recent study furthers research in this area by looking at postsecondary faculty.

Emotional Intelligence and Teaching Success in Higher Education

This study, recently carried out by Dr. Rebecca Haskett of Falls School of Business, looked at the relationship between teaching skills and emotional intelligence in the faculty of an institution of higher education.

In most colleges, faculty members have received advanced formal education in their discipline but very little training in how to teach. Often, evaluations of faculty teaching have focused on observations during teaching or interactions with students.

This study went beyond the usual and looked at the relationship between EI and successful teaching in higher education. By studying emotions that link to behaviors, Dr. Haskett set out to get a better understanding of what makes a great college teacher.

In this study she looked at two groups of faculty from a public institution of higher learning in the midwest U.S. The first group consisted of 86 award-winning teachers. The comparison group included 200 non-award-winning faculty members. The short version of the BarOn EQ-i was used to measure self-reported emotional and social skills.

Faculty members also rated the degree to which they adhered to the Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education. These are key principles developed by the American Association of Higher Education Task Force that characterize teaching practices in educationally successful undergraduate institutions.

The two groups of educators were compared on all these measures using multivariate analyses. Only the Happiness scale differentiated the award-winning faculty from the rest. Further, there were no differences in the degree to which faculty in the two groups subscribed to the Seven Principles. The EI factor that was most related to the Seven Principles was Interpersonal Relationship. Interestingly, in last month's EI Insider, I discussed a study that reported similar results with physicians. Results showed that significantly higher scores on the Happiness subscale were related to performance (Wagner, Moseley, Grant, Gore, Owens, 2002).

Dr. Haskett's findings will no doubt prove valuable in developing specific skills to help improve teaching in undergraduate facilities.

New Publications

Some new journal articles on emotional intelligence have recently been published:

Mayer, J. D., Salovey, P., & Caruso, D. R. (2004) Emotional intelligence: Theory, findings and implications. *Psychological Inquiry*, 15 (3), 197–215.

Mayer, J. D., Salovey, P., & Caruso, D. R. (2004) A further consideration of the issues of emotional intelligence. *Psychological Inquiry*, 15 (3), 249–255.

Please keep sending me comments and information about your original work in emotional intelligence. I've been getting great feedback from many of you and our subscription list continues to grow.

All the best,
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P.S. If you do not wish to receive my Insider Report, visit
<http://www.emotionalintelligencemhs.com/EIIRunsubscribe.asp> and enter your email address to unsubscribe.

Reference

Wagner, P. J., Moseley, G. C., Grant, M. M., Gore, J. R., Owens, C. (2002). Physicians' Emotional Intelligence and Patient Satisfaction. *Family Medicine*, 34 (10), 750–754.