

CTLA Article Review

Reviewer: Pat Casello, DC, Assistant Professor, MCAOM and Massage Therapy programs

Article:

Seehusen DA, Miser WF. Teaching the outstanding student. *Family Medicine*. 2006; 38:731-735

What the article is about:

The article discusses the importance of identifying and challenging the gifted student to help them avoid common pitfalls in traditional educational settings. The paper explores the criteria to identify outstanding students, including three broad subcategories: strivers, superstars and independents. Seehusen and Miser explore five basic traits (divergency, excitability, sensitivity, perceptivity, and entelechy) that give these students strength, yet pose potential obstacles for them in relationships with others and challenges for their teachers. The authors explore approaches for helping the gifted student to grow as well as assisting the teacher to maintain a respectful and mentoring educational environment.

Why the article may be useful:

The article demonstrates the value of challenging the gifted student. It provides specific approaches and examples to help the teacher provide stimulating learning opportunities for these students. At the same time it gives examples to help the teacher maintain a professional mentoring and teaching atmosphere for these and other students in the teaching environment.

Who the article is for:

The article is for all faculty, especially those in clinical education and application. It could apply to those in research and administration where interns are employed as well. It explores both the needs of the teacher and the gifted student towards a more collaborative outcome versus boredom for gifted students or seemingly defiant behavior in the educational setting.