



Center for Research on Teaching
and Learning Excellence

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Division of Faculty Affairs

Engaging the Disengaged: Moving our Students Toward Success

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

**CRTLE Classroom 105 Trinity Hall
and Microsoft Teams**



Speaker

Dr. Amandeep Dhaliwal

Postdoctoral Research Associate
Department of Psychology

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Poll: *Describe what you have observed or encountered relating to disengaged students in your courses.*

Respond at:

Pollev.com/anncavallo090

Or text:

[ANNCVALLO090](https://anncavallo090) to 37607

A top-down view of a desk with a wooden surface. In the upper right, a white keyboard is partially visible. Below it, two silver paper clips are scattered. In the lower right, a white coffee cup sits on a saucer. In the bottom right corner, a black spiral-bound notebook is open, showing lined pages, with a silver pen resting on the desk next to it. In the top left, a small potted plant is visible. The background is a light, neutral color.

Engaging the disengaged

Aman Dhaliwal, Ph.D.

Student Survey (Harvard Business Education)

- Common reasons students report for being disengaged:
 - **Lack of real-world application**
 - gap between what is taught in classrooms and what they need to learn to excel in the real world.
 - **Lecture heaviness**
 - Slides and long lectures.
 - **Lack of adaptability**
 - COVID-19 related changes.



ABC's of Disengaged Attitude

- **Affect**
 - **Feeling of hopelessness**
 - Results in chronic absenteeism and school dropout (Journal of Education and Work, 2006; Frontiers in Psychology, 2020)
 - **Sense of Belonging**
 - Feeling of being valued, included and accepted at university.
 - Lower levels of belongingness in first-generation students (Pedler et al., 2020)
- **Behavior**
 - **Environmental distractions**
 - Tech-enabled distractions - phones and laptops
 - **Lack of motivation** (Carnegie-Eberly Center)
 - Do not believe their efforts will improve performance.
 - Have other priorities that compete for their time and attention.
- **Cognition**
 - **Knowledge gap**
 - Good versus not-so-good school districts.



ABC's of Engagement

- **Affect**
 - Establish a **trusting** relationship with students by being tolerant, consistent, and intellectually humble (Worthington et al., 2023).
- **Behavior**
 - Incorporate tech into lectures.
 - Motivate by holding students accountable, provide feedback, and highlighting the benefits of education for the real-world success.
- **Cognition**
 - Administer early assessments.
 - Help student set realistic expectations.

Poll: Describe an effective action you have taken in your courses to re-engage your disengaged students.

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Discussion and Q&A!



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