

## **The learner - learning – teaching triangle**

### **Why teachers teach after all**

There is one aspect of the motivation behind teaching is that is not often discussed – many teachers teach their subject or program because they need to learn or explore something about it. They may not be aware of it, not admit, but it happens quite often. This is the first pillar in the learning-teaching triangle.

You must be thinking- that is not possible, it is almost insane. How comes that teachers have other motivation than pure service. They have an interest in their subject, but teaching for the sake to learn isn't that too selfish? Well, that is not all. Second comes the needs of the learners (although in parents – teachers conferences and school brochures it says it comes first). What do they need, how aware are they of their needs, to we find out the needs judging what they are claiming or otherwise? It will be insane if the inner motivation of a teacher doesn't meet the needs of the learners. Does it still sound insane? Let me put in other words. You have a person passionate to explore, dig deeper, learn about a topic/skill/aspect of their personality. In addition, they want to share (that would be the minimal requirement), contribute and even develop the topic/ skill/ attitude/ aspect of their personality. So, they decide to teach. If they have pedagogical skills (which can be acquired by the way), then they are teachers. Yet they need to meet the needs of the learners – that is the second pillar.

The third is related to society and culture. Yes, we learn best by teaching. Yes, we can contribute that way. But we need to have a clear vision what change and impact we want to make in society through our teaching to make it sustainable. Isn't it beautiful now? A personal passion for development can meet the needs of learners and with clear vision can transform society. This is a win – win – win situation.

- A. Teacher wins and gains a lot
- B. Learners win
- C. Society wins