Observable Characteristics of Effective Teachers
http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/teachlearn/resources/peer/guidelines/index.html

- Begins class promptly and in a well-organized way.
- Treats students with respect and caring.
- Provides the significance/importance of information to be learned.
- Provides clear explanations.
- Holds attention and respect of students, practices effective classroom management.
- Uses active, hands-on student learning.
- Varies his/her instructional techniques.
- Provides clear, specific expectations for assignments.
- Provides frequent and immediate feedback to students on their performance. Praises student answers and uses probing questions to clarify/elaborate answers.
- Provides many concrete, real life, practical examples.
- Draws inferences from examples/models and uses analogies.
- Creates a class environment which is comfortable for student...allows students to speak freely.
- Teaches at an appropriately fast pace, stopping to check student understanding and engagement.
- Communicates at the level of all students in class.
- Has a sense of humor!
- Uses nonverbal behavior, such as gestures, walking around, and eye contact to reinforce his/her comments.
- Presents him/herself in class as "real people."
- Focuses on the class objective and does not let class get sidetracked.
- Uses feedback from students (and others) to assess and improve teaching.
- Reflects on own teaching to improve it