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**A pedagogical odyssey.**

Dewar, Jacqueline M. (ed.) et al., Doing the scholarship of teaching and learning in mathematics. Washington, DC: The Mathematical Association of America (MAA) (ISBN 978-0-88385-193-7/pbk; 978-1-61444-318-6/ebook). MAA Notes 83, 107-116 (2015).

Summary: The authors's odyssey in this inspirational chapter could be characterized as a "vision of the possible" investigation, initiated because he wanted to try something unusual. He began with a desire to help his students gain a deeper understanding of the concept of a function. He also wanted them to encounter genuine applications of mathematics, ones that were truly interdisciplinary. He thought that asking his students to write about this would help them clarify their thinking. As his experiment unfolded, to understand what was happening and to refine what he was trying to achieve, he first used reflective practice, and later SoTL. This chapter underscores the usefulness of observation and data collection on two levels. In aiming to teach his students the value of observation and data collection, the author discovers that this is exactly what he must do as their teacher – observe and collect data.

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*Keywords:* scholarship of teaching and learning; universities; educational research; functions; mathematical applications; interdisciplinary approach; real-world data analysis; population dynamics; didactics of mathematics; educational diagnosis; analysis of learning outcomes; evaluation; teaching-learning processes; academic approach; professional development; peer review