“The Pedantic 21st Century Freshman Engineering Student”

1. This article talks about the common traits and behaviors of College Engineering students. What I noticed is that it is more about all the flaws of these students instead just their traits and behaviors. Flaws range from being scared of challenges to spending too much time on social networking websites instead of being productive. It was also mentioned that this obviously doesn’t apply to all students and it shouldn’t be assumed that it is true for all the students but from my experience I know that it is true for a majority of students. A lot of these “traits” apply to a vast number of students and not just engineering majors.
2. According to my definition of “scientifically sound,” I do not believe that this is scientifically sound. The author wrote this based on observations from his/her student and didn’t really have evidence or specific examples of any sort. He never even gave one little specific example of these traits and behaviors. Also these are just his views on how he observed the students.
3. I know for a fact that a lot of these traits and behaviors apply to a lot of students here at UNR but just everywhere. I know from my experiences in my math and physics classes. Students just wanted to know how to do everything and didn’t want to understand it just like the author mentioned in 2.14 where students only want answers and not understanding. Also I know that the trait in 2.5 that says students just don’t like to work is completely true. I have seen students that are just too lazy to do anything. I am not guilty of my first example but I know that I am a little of this one just not to the extent of other colleagues.
4. I do believe the author’s opinions are true. Even though I believe this is true there isn’t much I would do to change the students. I would find a way to motivate students and make them want to learn. I believe if a student is motivated and they actually want to learn all these problems will be resolved. Even though we are in college, many of us students just aren’t really in the mindset to learn yet. And some of us only go to college because it is what is socially acceptable and the right thing to do.