Best Practices in Mentoring: some opening remarks/rambles

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June 21, 2004

PAESMEM/Stanford School of Engineering
Workshop on Mentoring
“The older I grow, the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom.”

- HL Mencken
Mentoring is a “dual-immersion” process

- two-way process
- learn, rethink, and revise
- adversity and disappointment

“Except in cases of necessity, which are rare, leave your friend to learn unpleasant things from his enemies; they are ready enough to tell them.”

- Oliver Wendell Holmes
A life-long relationship...

- directing and advocating
- evaluating and rewarding
- recognition

“When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years”

- Mark Twain

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The role of a mentor: Advisor or Consultant?

• pragmatism versus passion
• life choices

“Dance like no one is watching. Sing like no one is listening. Love like you've never been hurt and live like it's heaven on Earth.”

- Mark Twain
“Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.”

-Mark Twain