

# Thoughts on Mentoring

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# Mentoring

- Who was Mentor?
- What is a mentor?
- Issues related to mentoring

“If you don’t know where you are going,  
you may get there”

-Yogi Berra

# Mentoring

Mentor was a wise and trusted friend of Odysseus – cared for his son, Telemachus, while Odysseus was on his journey. Was actually Athena in disguise.

# Mentoring

## Definition:

- a wise and trusted counselor or teacher
- an influential senior sponsor or supporter

# Aphorisms About Mentoring

- Institutions don't mentor
- The Chair or Center Director should take primary responsibility for helping their recruits identify an appropriate mentor
- Should be more than a one-time casual mating experience between the unwilling
- Mentors need not be gender or specialty specific
- Don't shop for a mentor at discount outlets
- A mentoring relationship should not be the blind leading the blind
- Avoid crowds
- Too many mentors spoil a career/project
- Mentoring by committee begets committee products
- If your skin is too thin, you may exsanguinate
- Mentoring is not a career