

# Reciprocal Mentors

## **The benefits to the concept of reciprocal mentors seem numerous.**

The concept simply involves exchanging mentor roles with one other person to explore a particular skill or subject.

It allows for being invested and interested in someone else's learning and growth. In the same way it allows for someone else's interest and investment in your learning and growth.

It affords the opportunity to teach something you know thereby learning more about the subject and exploring it in new ways. It affords the same opportunity to someone else.

It eliminates monetary compensation which saves money for everyone involved.

It eliminates the government profiting by the sharing of knowledge among people through taxing income.

It creates the opportunity for a friendship among people that would not be as accessible in other kinds of arrangements.

It provides impetus for organizing your expertise such that there is clarity and progression to your teaching sessions.

Most people have a number of skills that can be shared on an in depth level. Matching up people with skills and knowledge that will work in a reciprocal mentor relationship may not be as difficult as it would appear.

Learning one-on-one is the most direct and efficient technique for the individual receiving instruction. This is not the case for the teacher/mentor. However the concept of reciprocal mentors then puts this in balance creating a perfect equilibrium of time efficiency.

It could be an expanding learning process for those involved, breaking down the stereotypical ways we end up viewing mentors in our lives. All mentors for each person would be very real people with strong and weak points.

It can be fun and involve the pursuit of passion in ones life

## **The challenges for the concept of reciprocal mentors are varied:**

People will naturally learn at different rates thereby taxing the well of knowledge of their mentor at different rates. This could eventually end up in a disequilibrium causing dissatisfaction

Personalities will clash thereby getting in the way of sharing knowledge. This is possible in any teacher/mentor relationship.

Different expectations for the process can get in the way. This can be tempered by sharing expectations from the beginning in a clear way

