Abstract

In June 2003, Intel Cooperation, U.S.A attempted to implement the "Community Education Programme" in China. It delegated that the Education Technology Department, Faculty of Education of the Beijing University to implement the program and employed the "Community Teacher Center" as the teaching staff training agent. The programme aimed at establishing and operating "Community Education Centers" and developing textbooks for junior high school students and teachers. Before the CTC programme began to train teachers, the professional staff at the Beijing University was invited to translate the training programme materials into Chinese and fit them into the Chinese context. After training, teachers returned to their home base and began their teaching. Once the programme commenced, teachers were exposed to some practical problems. They realized that the short training programmed did not provide them with sufficient capability to deal with problems encountered. A platform for the purpose of assisting, communicating and sharing became an urgent need for them. After consultation, the professional staff at Beijing University decided to set up a Group Telementoring platform to support teachers in dealing with problem solving and to stimulate teachers' thinking.

Two professional staff of the Educational Technology Department, Faculty of education at Beijing University voluntarily took up the duty as group mentors. Each mentor was responsible for responding to a group of mentees from different provinces across mainland China by answering the mentees' questions, and sharing resources and experiences with mentees.

This is a comprehensive survey. Questionnaire and interviews were employed to study both experiences of the mentors and mentees. The foci of the study are as follows:

1. To investigate the operation, the level of participation and satisfaction towards the platform.

2. To investigate the correlation between the level of satisfaction and the background of the mentees.

3. To investigate the correlation between the level of satisfaction and the personal background of mentees.

4. To investigate the correlation between the level of satisfaction and the level of participation, role behaviour, and external support.

5. To investigate the accomplishment of Group Telementoring through interviewing the mentors and the mentees and through collecting emails written among them.