Self-e-Mentoring: A New Paradigm for Inservice Teacher Education

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More often than not independent learning and informal learning is disconnected from the formative learning process. This discourages learners from pursuing personal interests that lead to experimentation and discovery. But these are some very valuable intellectual building blocks that should be nurtured and sustained. This is true for students as well as for teachers refining their knowledge and teaching skills. The Self-e-Mentoring approach can be used to support these informal kinds of knowledge building and to correlate these resulting building blocks of knowledge to curriculum in the case of students and to practice in the case of teachers. The Self-e-Mentoring approach has the potential of combining the best aspects of intelligent tutoring, personalized and sustained independent mentoring online and self-guided research.

We introduce the Self-e-mentoring approach as an integrated solution combining content management, video conferencing for interacting with a mentor in real-time, white board for communicating ideas, application sharing for collaborative work, profile portfolios for assessment or evaluation and a focused digital library for personalized support. Complex system integration of components traditionally included in collaboration, content management and communications systems is necessary to implement an environment that supports Self-e-Mentoring. The following is an overview of these components and two diagrams describing the environment and the associated systems architecture. For more detail please contact the authors.

SELF-e-MENTORING ARCHITECTURE COMPONENTS

Data Collection Sub-system
Content Management
Presentation Management
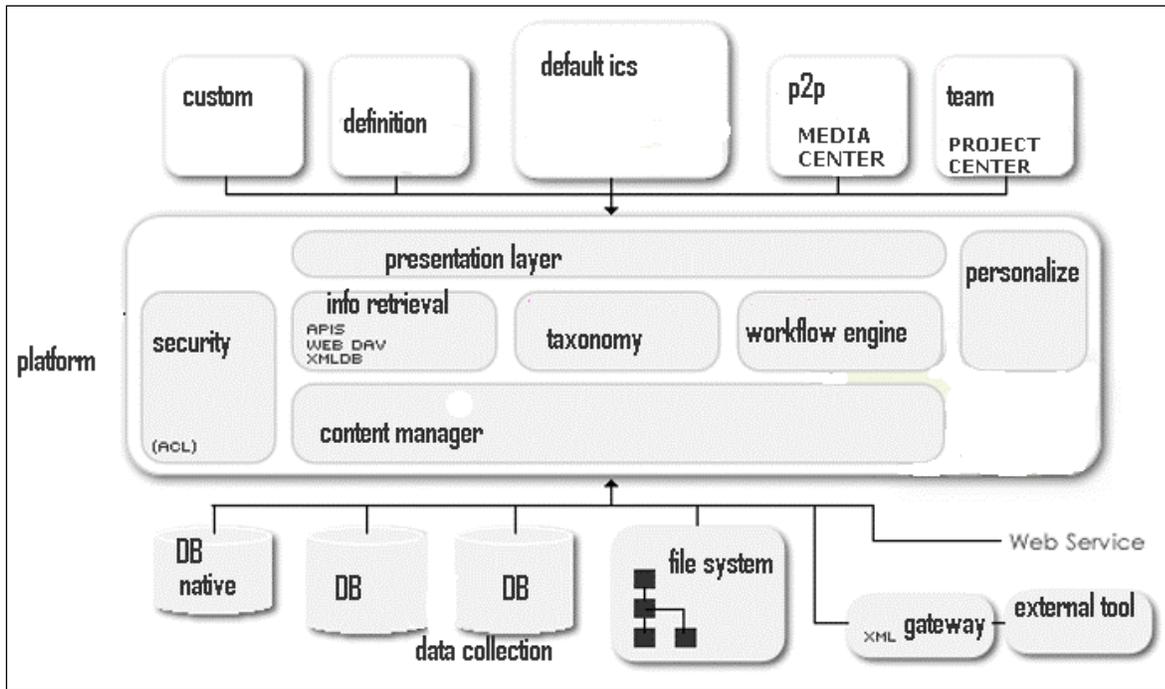**Systems Management**
Communications Management

Figure 1. SELF-e-MENTORING ENVIRONMENT

SELF-e-MENTORING ARCHITECTURE COMPONENTS

Content Management Component: digital library, indexing scheme, meta-language for individualized mentoring
Data Warehouse Component: database of content profiles, database of mentoring resources, interactive indexed content catalog, scenarios profile library
Data Mining Component: integrate with data mining for perfect matching of content and mentoring, analytical applications, reporting applications, knowledge discovery applications
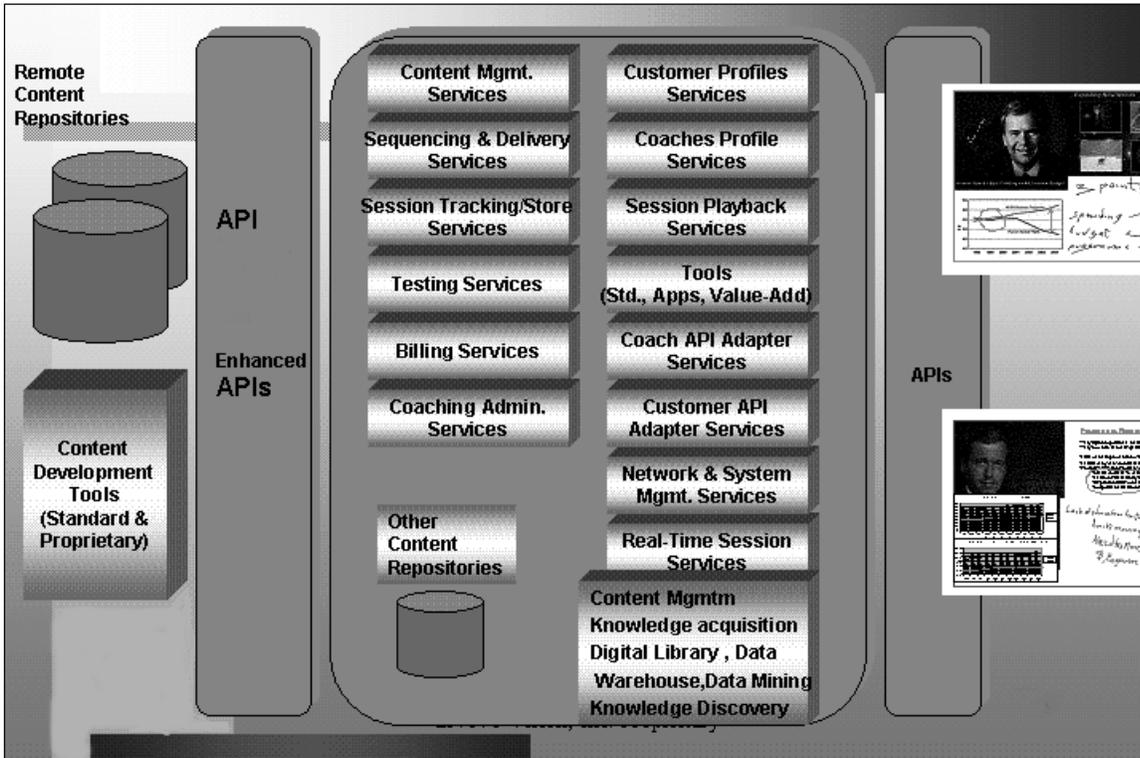**Capture content as primitives for:** reuse, adaptability, management, indexing, analysis

Figure 2. SELF-e-MENTORING ARCHITECTURE