Reinventing Education in America

In spite of the enormous sums being expended to operate the school systems in the U S, their performance is disappointingly low. The 19th century schooling paradigm now in general use is costly and inefficient. Today's "teacher-centric" model, with its emphasis on the "hand-feeding" of information and ideas to classrooms of students, is slow, highly labor-intensive and, far too often, ineffective. As the world leader in information technology, the U S is now capable of bringing about a paradigm shift – a shift from the teacher-centric model to a far more productive model – a "student-centric" model. Each individual in student-centric systems will be provided with a new kind of learning environment – an environment designed to make optimal use of the capabilities and competencies of each student and, at the same time, to deal effectively with any handicaps and learning limitations.

The Mudoc Corporation is developing a new information technology, *the mudoc technology* – a technology that will facilitate the transition from teacher-centric to student-centric systems. The tools of the mudoc technology will enable each student to optimize his or her own particular perceptual, cognitive, and other learning capabilities. These new tools will change the teacher's primary role from that of controller and data deliverer to that of mentor, monitor, and technical consultant. Instead of expending a major portion of their time preparing students for tests, teachers will focus on helping the students acquire the problem solving abilities and strategies they need to achieve their desired academic and personal goals. A new kind of human-computer interface, *the telereader terminal* (see links below) that is provided to each student will enable teachers to provide more individual and small group instruction – and will enable the students to spend more time working independently or in pairs or small groups.

The telereader terminal and the software tools of the mudoc technology will provide each student with a tailor-made learning environment– a highly flexible and easily modified environment in which the student can progress at whatever pace is optimum for him or her – a healthful environment in which the student is able to satisfy his or her own particular needs, interests, and abilities, however special and unique they may be. How will the mudoc tools provide each user with such extensive and responsive controls? Descriptions of the ways in which the mudoc tools will empower their users can be seen in the Web pages at mudoc.com – in particular, the pages "The Coming Revolution in Education" at http://www.mudoc.com/EdRev.pdf , "The Classroom of Tomorrow: An Educational Wonderland" at http://www.mudoc.com/newclass.pdf and "New Tools for Learning a Second Language" at http://www.mudoc.com/Learn2ndLang.pdf. These pages offer a preview of the changes the mudoc tools may bring to education in America – and soon thereafter, to all other nations.

If we are to reinvent education in America, the answer is <u>not</u> to install a Master Teacher in every classroom. Such a solution is obviously infeasible. But, a clearly feasible, faster, and far less costly solution is to provide every teacher and every student with an array of super tools – tools like the tools of the mudoc technology. The mudoc tools could turn our school systems from labor-intensive, low-efficiency, one-size-fits-all operations into high-efficiency and individualized computer-supported systems – school systems that would produce far more productive and satisfying results for everyone involved.