

Open Education Faculty at the EADL Conference

"New Horizons in Distance Learning" organized by EADL, held in Istanbul Hilton Hotel, on May 26-28, 2004.

Turkey hosted this year's EADL (European Association for Distance Learning) conference that is organized annually in different countries. The theme of the 19th conference, held in Istanbul Hilton Hotel, on May 26-28, was "New Horizons in Distance Learning". The Rector Prof. Dr. Engin Atac and five other faculty members participated in the event.

In three-day consecutive conference, Prof. Dr. Atac presented a paper titled "Distance Education Applications at Anadolu University" and shared with the audiences the activities within the Anadolu University Open Education System. Vice Dean of Open Education Faculty Prof. Dr. Mehmet Kesim presented a paper titled "High Tech in Distance Education at Anadolu University". Vice Dean of Open Education Faculty Assoc. Dr. Aydin Ziya Ozgur and Public Relations staff Berrin Ozkanal discussed "Special Applications and Environments in Distance Education: The Open Education Faculty of Anadolu University" in their joint paper. Assist. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Mutlu joined the conference with the paper titled "E-Learning Applications in the Open Education Faculty of Anadolu University". A stand, introducing the activities of Anadolu University Open Education System, remained open during the conference.

It is aimed that Anadolu University to be a member of the Association that includes public and private institutions across the Europe.

Professor Engin ATAÇ, rector of Anadolu University, gave a speech on "Distance Education Applications at Anadolu University" He focused and shared with the audiences on his speech that there were three areas which is targeted by the Distance Education services of Anadolu University:

- all those wanting to take college-level classes,
- those wanting to add to their existing qualifications, and
- support of equal educational rights for all.

And also The Open Education Faculty has three colleges:

- Business School,
- School of Economics, and
- College of Open Education, providing a total of 28 two and four-year programmes.

850,000 students have enrolled in the Faculty since its inception in 1982. Enrolment is now 35% of all students in higher education in Turkey.

The Distance Education services of Anadolu University target three areas: all those

wanting to take college-level classes; those wanting to add to their existing qualifications; and support for equal educational rights for all. The Open Education Faculty has three colleges: a Business School, a School of Economics, and a College of Open Education, providing a total of 28 two and four-year programmes. 850,000 students have enrolled in the Faculty since its inception in 1982. It now enrolls 35% of all students in higher education in Turkey.

“High Tech in Distance Education at Anadolu University” subject was presentation title of Professor Mehmet Kesim, Ph.D. in this conference. He mentioned that Anadolu is not only one of the biggest universities in the world; in Turkey, it is unique. Using new communication technologies means that the distance between student and institute is reduced to a minimum; the time needed to access knowledge is growing ever shorter; the bounds of knowledge are being pushed out wider; and asynchronous and synchronous student interaction can be provided.

E-Learning Applications in the Open Education Faculty of Anadolu University presented by Assistant Professor M. Emin MUTLU, Ph. D., In his presentation mentioned that The Open Education System of Anadolu University produces internet-based tutorials, self-tests, drills and practical assignments. With a target audience of distance education students, this is one of the biggest educational institutions in Turkey. E-learning applications in the Open Education System will be evaluated, and Turkey's e-learning future discussed.

Joint presentation of Dr. Aydin Ziya Ozgur, Ph.D. and Berrin Ozkanal, Instructor, was on Special Applications and Environments in Distance Education: The Open Education Faculty of Anadolu University. Anadolu University was, in 1982, the first institute in Turkey to apply and develop the new communication technologies in distance education. Here they discussed both traditional DE methods (printed material, TV, & radio etc.) and student services, and new methods involving multi-communication technologies.

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