

## From the Editor

### Dear Readers of TOJDE;

Three months are over since the 1st January 2003. Now again I am pleased to inform you that Vol.:4, Number:2 issue of The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education-TOJDE has been issued on the web site <http://tojde.anadolu.edu.tr> TOJDE is meeting with its readers for the 10th time, since 2000 January.

In this issue place has been given to five articles, two book reviews, six news, and three links deal with Anadolu University take place. This issue's articles came from Greece, India, North and USA according to alphabetical order.

The first article is dealt with "A Study of the problems associated with ICT adaptability in Developing Countries in the context of Distance Education", written by M. RAJESH Assistant Regional Director, from Indira Gandhi National Open University Regional Centre, India. In his article it is mentioned that "the problems associated with the growth of ICT that have been focused upon in this paper are Political factors, Economic factors, Cultural factors and technological factors. Among the major problems associated with application of ICTs the focus will be laid on Socio-political factors, Human and Administrative factors, Economic factors and Technical factors. Further, the paper based on various case studies derives important conclusions and also provides pertinent suggestions to ensure the smooth growth and effective application of ICT in the Third World".

The second article is join study from USA and written by Senem YILDIZ and Carrie CHANG from Indiana University, Bloomington. Their article is entitled as "Case Studies of Distance Students' Perceptions of Participations and Interaction in Three Asynchronous Web-Based Conferencing Classes In The USA". Their article point out that to understand distance students' perceptions of participation an interaction in 3 asynchronous web-based conferencing classes offered by Language Education Department at a large Midwestern University in the U.S., end-of-semester course evaluation and follow-up e-mail survey was analyzed for different components of classroom interaction. Findings suggested that students perceived no difference regarding quantity of feedback from peers or instructors in web-based courses face-to-face courses. They also tended to agree that they received more valuable feedback from both peers and instructors in web-based courses than in face-to-face courses. And also reported that feedback was received more promptly from peers and instructors alike in web-based courses than in face-to-face courses. Limitations of the study were discussed and recommendations for teachers and researcher presented.

The third article is joir study and arrived to TOJDE from neighbour country, Greece which is about "The quality of the learning experience: a comparative study between open distance and conventional education", written by Assist. Prof. Dr. Antonis LIONARAKIS, from Open and Distance Learning Hellenic Open University and Dr. Demetra PAPADEMETRIOU, University of Patras, Greece. Their paper contain and pointing out that analyzing the quality of the process and practice of learning, emanating from the learning experiences of two different groups of postgraduate students studying open and distance education through the "Studies in Education" course of the Faculty of Humanitarian Studies of the Hellenic Open University and through the Pedagogic Department of Primary Education of the University of Athens.

The fourth article also is a join study from USA. It is titled as" Students' Distress with a Web-based Distance Education Course: An Ethnographic Study of Participants' Experiences". Written by Noriko HARA and Rob KLING from Indiana University Bloomington, USA. Their paper presents that a qualitative case study of a web-based

distance education course at a major U.S. university and to enhance understanding of the instructional design issues, instructor and student preparation, and communication practices that are needed to improve web-based distance education courses.

The Fifth article from USA on "Simulation And Discovery Learning In An Age Of Zapping And Searching: Learning Models(A Treatise About The Educational Strength And Availability Of Digital Learning Tools And Simulation On The World Wide Web)", by Rik MIN, USA. Rik points out Discovery learning concept daily in his study. According to Rik; Discovery learning is one of the oldest and commonest forms of learning too. Adults apply this principle daily although they are not aware of it. So do children in different stages of their development. Toddlers discover words and their meanings accidentally. They become aware of relations between words and physical quantities and in particular between cause and result. It is a wonderful article which is updated version of the article for TOJDE.

In this issue's "Reviews" section contains two book reviews from Turkey, which are written in Turkish. The first book is reviewed by Ismail Hakki MIRICI Assistant Professor in Kirikkale University, Turkey. The book is entitled as "Uzaktan Egitim [Distance Education]", written by Prof. Dr. Zeki KAYA and published by PegemA Yayıncılık Ankara, Turkey, 2002 pp i-x, 291p. This book aims at introducing what "Distance Education" is and how it has been developed in theory and practice, as well as how it can be practiced in different teaching situations. Therefore this book, to which the author poured his years of experiences, is composed of ten main chapters and covers such significant topics related to "Distance Education" as the needs of distance education, some implementations for distance education, the administration of distance education, course-books, radio and television lessons, computer-mediated learning resources, interactive settings, co-operative learning through internet and programme assessment.

Second book is reviewed by Prof. Dr. Dursun GOKDAG, Anadolu University, and Eskisehir, TURKEY, which entitled as "20 Kurulus Yilinda Anadolu Üniversitesi Açıköğretim Sistemi ve Açıköğretim Fakültesi Egitim Televizyonu (ETV) [Anadolu University Distance Education System And The Educational Television of Distance Education Faculty in its 20 th. Year]", written by Sensu CURABAY and Emine DEMIRAY. The book is the documentation of the studies in the field of educational radio and television in Anadolu University in Turkey since 20 years.

Some columns in the News section of TOJDE are still kept in this issue too. For example, "some statistical data and figures" column is kept dealing with the past issues (Vol.:4 No.:1) for visitors or readers of TOJDE. Another subject is dealing with some Tojde dealers and readers' feelings and their expressions which had been sent to the editor-in-Chief about TOJDE's perception, also has been kept. This Column will be carried on the following issues in due to. Since your feelings and expressions are always welcome to the TOJDE's Editorial. We believe that you will do your best expression on your feelings and opinions about TOJDE in due course. Columns which are entitled "Advertising in the TOJDE", "Anadolu University's Articles" and "TOJDE's Links Are Getting More" still kept in this issue. As a new subject, TOJDE's links are increasing day by day in the electronic medium.

Dear readers, you can reach us online either directly at <http://tojde.anadolu.edu.tr> or by visiting Anadolu University homepage at <http://www.anadolu.edu.tr> and go to the 'index' page. To receive further information and to send your recommendations and remarks, or to submit articles for consideration, please contact TOJDE Secretariat at the below address or e-mail us to [tojde@anadolu.edu.tr](mailto:tojde@anadolu.edu.tr) . Happy readings.

Hope to stay in touch and meet in next issue on July 2003.

Cordially Yours,

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