Dear TOJDE Readers,

Welcome to Volume 23 Issue 2 of TOJDE.

There are 15 articles and 1 book review in the April 2022 issue of TOJDE. 37 authors from 9 different countries contributed to the issue. These countries are Australia, Bahrain, Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Turkey and USA.

PROFILING LEARNING PREFERENCES OF DISTANCE EDUCATION STUDENTS BASED ON NEURAL NETWORK ANALYSIS is the 1st article. This article is written by Mehmet FIRAT. This research investigates the learning preferences of distance education students. Data was collected from 3390 distance education students from Anadolu University, considered as one of the mega universities in the world. Results and recommendations are explained in the end of the article.

The title of the 2nd article is HOW TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF ONLINE EDUCATION FROM ONLINE EDUCATION DIRECTORS’ PERSPECTIVES. Sadegul AKBABA ALTUN and Tristan E. JOHNSON are the authors. The aim of this research is to solicit how to improve the quality of online education from online education program directors’ perspectives. The research was designed as a qualitative case study. Eight dimensions are found to improve the quality of online education as indicated in the article.

The 3rd article is written by Chinun BOONROUNGRUT, Wulan Patria SAROINSONG and One KIM. A TEN-YEAR BIBLIOMETRIC NETWORK REVIEW ON MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSES (MOOCs) RESEARCH: 2011-2020 is the title of the article. This article aims to identify the MOOCs research scientific landscape as the trend from publications worldwide. The bibliometric network analysis using distance-based network mapping in VOSviewer was applied in the research. There are three main research clusters: learning system, human characteristics and higher education clusters. The results highlights that terms, such as ‘learning systems’, ‘gender differences’ and ‘flipped classroom’ emerged as ongoing research trends.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS’ ATTITUDES TOWARD ONLINE EDUCATION AND THEIR STRESS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC is the title of the 4th article. Hale OGE-BALABAN is the author. The aim of the study is to examine the relationship between university students’ stress level and their attitude toward online education forced during the COVID-19 pandemic. The findings are discussed in terms of their implications particularly for future emergency education programs and generally for online education.

The title of the 5th article is A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW STUDY ON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND DISTANCE EDUCATION: THE CASE OF TURKEY, written by Gurhan DURAK, Mahmut Ali SAHIN, Ozge OZTUZCU and Ozge Banur GOKTAS. The purpose of the study is to reveal the content analysis of master’s theses and doctoral dissertations in the field of CEIT between 2018-2020. According to the research findings, it is seen that quantitative methods were mostly used in the theses and dissertations examined and that mixed methods were used in master’s theses more than in doctoral dissertations.

THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT OF THE DISTANCE LEARNING MA PROGRAM ON CHARACTER AND VALUE EDUCATION AT ANADOLU UNIVERSITY is the title of the 6th article. The authors are Handan DEVECI and Hatice TURE. The aim of this qualitative study is to reveal to what extent the students reflected the outcomes they gained in the program to themselves, their families, immediate environments and the society. The results of the study show that the students who attended the Distance Learning MA Program on Character and Value Education gained certain benefits for themselves, which were also reflected to their families and immediate environments as well as the country and the world. Various suggestions are offered in accordance with the results of the study.

Zeliha DEMIR KAYMAK and Mehmet Baris HORZUM are the authors of the 7th article. STUDENT BARRIERS TO ONLINE LEARNING AS PREDICTORS OF PERCEIVED LEARNING AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT is the title of the article. In this study, the barriers identified by Muilenburg and Berge in 2005 were used as online learning barriers. These are (1) administrative issues, (2) social
interaction, (3) academic skills, (4) technical skills, (5) learner motivation, (6) time and support for studies, (7) cost and access to the Internet, and (8) technical problems. The results show that gender and job status affect both academic achievement and perceived learning. In terms of students' online learning barriers, academic skills and learning motivation are predictors of academic achievement. In addition, academic skills and time and support for studies are predictors of perceived learning.

WHEN TECHNOLOGY-BASED LEARNING IS THE ONLY OPTION: EVALUATING PERCEIVED USEFULNESS OF SOCIAL MEDIA is the title of the 8th article, written by Aamer HANIF and Muhammad IMRAN. The objective of this study is to explore how the state of student's behavioral intention for social media based online learning is driven by external factors like subjective norm and self-efficacy. To fulfill this aim, this study uses a quantitative approach.

The title of the 9th article is AUTOMATED FEEDBACK AND TEACHER FEEDBACK: WRITING ACHIEVEMENT IN LEARNING ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE AT A DISTANCE. The authors of this study are Ayse TASKIRAN and Nil GOKSEL. This study intends to examine if automated feedback and teacher feedback contribute to academic writing achievement and whether they differ in their effect on achievement in learning English as a foreign language in an open and distant learning context. Results show that participants tended to improve their academic writing skills by taking regular feedback, and it was observed that the writing scores increased slightly more when receiving feedback from teachers compared to automated feedback software.

The 10th article is written by Karimeldin M. A. SALIH, Abdulelah A. ALBAQAMI, Abubakar JIBO, Jaber A. ALFAIFI, Sultan A. AL AMRI, Mushabab ALGHAMDI, Mohammed ABBAS and Mutasim E. IBRAHIM. SOCIAL MEDIA UTILIZATION AND THEIR IMPACT ON MALE MEDICAL STUDENTS LEARNING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC is the title of the article. The results indicate that social media become interactive tools of learning in medical schools during the urgent situation such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Findings highlight the benefits of considering social media inclusion when designing medical curricula.

EFFICIENCY IN OPEN AND DISTANCE EDUCATION: A RESEARCH AT ANADOLU UNIVERSITY is the title of the 11th article, written by Bilal SARAC and Nesrin ALPTEKIN. This study is carried out to determine the activities of associate degree programs in Anadolu University Open Education System in the fall and spring semesters of 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019 academic years. Anadolu University Open Education System associate degree programs are ranked according to their efficiency values, by the Slack-Based Measure Analysis.

The 12th article's title is SECOND LIFE IN ART AND DESIGN FROM STUDENTS’ PERSPECTIVE: A CASE STUDY. Sevda CEYLAN-DADAKOGLU is the author. This article tries to determine the students' opinions related to the use of Second Life (SL) application in higher education art and design education. The results show, it is thought that Second Life will contribute to distance education by online learning.

Emine Ozgur SEN is the author of the 13th article and the title of this article is THEMATIC ANALYSIS OF ARTICLES ON FLIPPED LEARNING IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION. This study aims to conduct a thematic analysis of articles on the use of the flipped learning model in mathematics courses. Meta-thematic analysis is adopted as the research method. The study provides comprehensive data on the positive and negative aspects of the use of the flipped learning model in mathematics courses. However, comprehensive, extensive, and long-term studies are needed to provide more clear results on the implementation of flipped learning in mathematics courses.

EXPLORING CORRELATION BETWEEN METACOGNITIVE ONLINE READING STRATEGY USE AND ONLINE READING COMPREHENSION OF EFL STUDENTS is the 14th article's title. Agus RIANTO is the author of this article. The study explores the correlation between the use of Metacognitive Online Reading Strategies (MORS) and the Online Reading Comprehension (ORC) of Indonesian university students learning English as a Foreign Language (EFL). The results should be interpreted with caution since the strategy use was not assessed based on classroom observations but based on self-reports.
The 15th article is written by Sara SHAHANI, Azizeh CHALAK and Hossein Heidari TABRIZI. IMPACT OF CRITICAL THINKING INSTRUCTION THROUGH FLIPPED TEACHING ON IRANIAN EFL LEARNERS’ LISTENING COMPREHENSION is the title. The study investigated the effects of critical thinking instructions through a flipped teaching method on English Language learners’ listening comprehension. The results of the study reveal that the flipped approach is more effective when language learners are given instructions on critical thinking.

There is a book review in this issue. LEARNING IN THE DIGITAL AGE is the title of the book. The editor of this book is Tutaleni I. ASINO. The reviewers are Emin OZEN and Deniz TURKMEN.

Hope to meet again in the next issue of TOJDE.

Cordially,

Dr. T. Volkan YUZER

Editor in Chief