

Dear TOJDE Readers,

Welcome to Volume 23 Issue 3 of TOJDE.

There are 15 articles in the July 2023 issue of TOJDE. 46 authors from 14 different countries contributed to the issue. These countries are Bangladesh, China, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Turkiye, UK, and USA.

The title of the first article is REFLECTIONS ON MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSES (MOOCS) DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A BIBLIOMETRIC MAPPING ANALYSIS. The authors are Ahmed TLILI, Fahriye ALTINAY, Zehra ALTINAY, Cengiz Hakan AYDIN, Ronghuai HUANG and Ramesh C. SHARMA. The study intended to explore how this enrollment reflected on the research studies included in scientific publications, indexed by Web of Science. Specifically, the bibliometric mapping analyses of 108 studies have revealed an ongoing trend in the countries contributing to the MOOCs research, namely USA, China, UK and Spain.

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENT VIA MACHINE LEARNING BY USING SYSTEM LOGS IN LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM authored by İlhan KOYUNCU, Abdullah Faruk KILIC and Derya ORHAN GOKSUN is the 2nd article. The purposes of this study are to determine the variables that affect the classification of students according to their course achievements in ERT during the pandemic process and to examine the classification performance of machine learning techniques. In the study, analyzes were carried out with various machine learning techniques and their performances were compared.

The 3rd article THE MERLIN PROJECT: MALAYSIAN STUDENTS' ACCEPTANCE OF AN AI CHATBOT IN THEIR LEARNING PROCESS, is written by Mai NEO. The MERLIN Project was undertaken to develop a virtual learning assistant that would provide online support to students outside of their online classes in the study. Results show that students found the chatbot to be helpful in their learning process and improved their understanding of the course material.

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF STUDIES ON ONLINE EDUCATION FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER is the title of the 4th article, and the authors are Hamza POLAT, Elif TASLIBEYAZ and Murat Tolga KAYALAR. The study aims to investigate the current issues in online education studies relating to individuals with or involved with (i.e., parents or teachers) in the COVID-19 period. Results indicated that the publication rates of studies pertaining to individuals with autism spectrum disorder, their parents and teachers increased after 2014, and although online learning environments are found to be beneficial in meeting the needs of the target group, several improvements are needed to make them more useful and adaptable.

Tuba KARAHISAR and Ayhan Oguz UNLUER are the authors of the 5th article titled A RESEARCH ON DISTANCE EDUCATION AND ALIENATION IN ACADEMIC STAFF DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. The aim of the study is to identify the work alienation of academics during the Covid-19 pandemic and reveal the underlying reasons, with the help of semi-structured interview technique within the framework of the phenomenological approach, one of the qualitative research methods. As a result, it was found that the interviewed academics were adversely affected by the distance education method and they were not competent enough to use it. They also were unable to identify their demands regarding their economical and technical needs yet at the same time they were not satisfied with the support provided by their institutions.

The title of the 6th article is EMERGENCY DISTANCE EDUCATION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A QUALITATIVE RESEARCH FROM A SPECIAL EDUCATION PERSPECTIVE. Aysegul PURBUDAK, Mutluhan YILMAZ and Ozlem CAKIR are the authors. The aim of the study is to determine the difficulties experienced by students with special needs and special education teachers in distance education process. The findings are discussed by the authors related to special education teachers, students and the families.

INVESTIGATING NURSING STUDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH THE QUALITY OF COURSES AND VIRTUAL LEARNING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN 2020-2021 is the 7th article. Zahra FARSI, Effat AFAGHI, Andrew FOURNIER, Yazdan AHMADI, Seyedeh Azam SAJADI and Shahla ALIYARI are the authors. . This cross-sectional study was conducted at a nursing school (105 nursing students) in Tehran, Iran, in the first semester of 2020-2021. Given the unknown time of eradicating COVID-19, it is necessary to adopt appropriate policies and perform proper planning to continue better nursing education and increase student satisfaction.

The authors of the 8th article are Mussa Saidi ABUBAKARI, Nurkhamid NURKHAMID and Priyanto PRIYANTO. The title is FACTORS INFLUENCING ONLINE LEARNING ENGAGEMENT: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE AND THE ROLE OF INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT. The study is intended to model online learning engagement of international students studying in Indonesia to determine which factors affect learner engagement. A survey was conducted online, and 102 international students filled the questionnaire. The implications and recommendations are discussed as the result.

Elif CELIK, Gulsah OZDEMIR BAKI and Ahmet ISIK are the authors of the 9th article. The title of this article is EFFECT OF CLUSTER TEACHING WITH WORKSHEETS ON STUDENTS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN DISTANCE EDUCATION. The study aims to examine the effect of teaching with worksheets prepared for the 6th grade clusters in distance education on the academic achievement of students. The findings obtained from the interviews show that the students adopted the lessons taught with the worksheets.

The 10th article which is authored by Mohammed Yassin Mohd ABA SHA'AR, Chamaiporn BUDDHARAT and Phanit SINGHASUWAN is titled ENHANCING STUDENTS' ENGLISH AND DIGITAL LITERACIES THROUGH ONLINE COURSES: BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES. This study aims to examine the benefits of incorporating online courses, MyELT, for General English curricula and to investigate the challenges that negatively affect the expediency of the courses in improving the students' English proficiency and digital literacy. The results indicate four factors namely: teachers' teaching practices, their inability to mentor students' performance which further instigated some students to do unethical practices, the company system of accessibility, and MyELT courses content.

ANALYSIS OF ONLINE TEXT-BASED DISCUSSIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMUNITY OF INQUIRY is the 11th article authored by Yasemin KARAL and Osman KONTEK. The study analyzes students' shares and views with the goal of exploring the implications of online synchronous text-based discussions held in the Information Technology and Software lessons. One of the results is online text-based discussions help achieve a meaningful learning experience through development of social, cognitive and teaching presence.

The 12th article, A MIXED-METHODS STUDY OF THE CORRELATION BETWEEN IRANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' SATISFACTION AND ANXIETY IN ONLINE CLASSES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, is authored by Zeinab AZIZI, Afsheen REZAI and Azam NASERPOUR. The study aims to investigate the correlation between university students' satisfaction and anxiety in online classes during the COVID-19 pandemic in Iran. A range of implications is suggested in the result.

Ashwaq Abdulrahman ALDAGHRI and Iman M. ORAIF are the authors of the 13th article titled THE IMPACT OF ONLINE TEACHING ON STUDENTS' ENGAGEMENT IN WRITING DURING THE PANDEMIC OF COVID-19. The present study adapts Student Course Engagement Questionnaire to explore the impact of online teaching through Blackboard on English as foreign language college students' engagement in writing. The results of the present non-experimental study generally indicate that online learning through Blackboard positively influenced the engagement of Saudi EFL learners. The findings also demonstrate that the students perceived the learning experience positively.

The 14th article titled TEACHERS' NARRATIVES FROM INITIAL VIRTUAL CLASSROOMS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN DEVELOPING BANGLADESH is authored by Tasnima AKTAR, M. MANIRUZZAMAN, Harunur Rashid KHAN and Mahadhi HASAN. This paper aims to understand how virtual classrooms look like in the Higher Education context in Bangladesh through TESOL teachers' narratives from initial virtual classrooms imparting emergency remote teaching. A multidisciplinary approach is discussed in the results.

The 15th article STUDENTS' SATISFACTION WITH THE PRACTICES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NON-REGULAR EDUCATION PROGRAMS: THE CASE OF HARAMAYA UNIVERSITY, ETHIOPIA is authored by Geremew Chala TERESA and Gutema Imana KENO. To achieve the aim of the study mentioned in the title, an explanatory sequential mixed methods research design, which initially allows collecting quantitative data and then qualitative data for elaboration on the quantitative data, is used. The findings are presented sequentially following the order of the analysis of quantitative and qualitative data in the result.

Hope to meet again in the next issue of TOJDE.

Cordially,

Dr. T. Volkan YUZER

Editor in Chief