

### **Greetings Dear readers of TOJDE,**

The first notes for editor is titled as **Screencasts** which are written by Kevin YEE and Jace HARGIS from USA. They mentioned that screencast technology and individual applications will doubtless continue to change and evolve. It seems likely, however, that student appetite for video-delivered content, either as supplementary learning materials or as the main delivery mechanism, will remain undiminished for the foreseeable future.

The second notes for editor is titled as **The Use Of Fuzzy Theory In Grading Of Students In Math**, sent from Serbia and written by Prof. Dr Momcilo BJELICA and Dr. Dragica RANKOVIC. They indicated that With the combination of old, traditional way of evaluation of students knowledge and success, and the application of "fuzzy logic" and "the theory of fuzzy sets", "the method of ponderous areas", and other new computer and scientific technologies, we are getting a complex formula, that is also, friendly to constant changes, depending on developments in the schooling process. The new grading system is very user friendly, and can be applied in primary-middle schools as well as in high schools. It takes into account all the students activities and achievements, raises the quality of a teacher's performance and can be updated with new computer technologies. This model is, also, a great support program in grading of students involved in "distance learning" systems.

The last one for Note for editor titled as **"Voice of the Voiceless: Women Enlightenment, BOU and Community Radio"** written by Associate Professor, Zobaida AKHTER, Bangladesh Open University, BANGLADESH. Dr. AKHTER says that The Community broadcasting system is on the way to start in Bangladesh. The CR installation Operation and Broadcasting Policy-2008 has been announced on 12 March this year. The application for the permission of setting up community radio have been asked through advertisement since 18 March 2008. A total of 400 application form were sold and 178 applicants submitted to The Ministry of Information for the permission of the community radio set up, about 50 community radio station are expected to start soon in Bangladesh and then rest of the 66 station will get permission to start their CR station. Recently Bangladesh Government has approved the regulation of the community radio in Bangladesh.

The first article is from Iran which on **"Assessment Approaches In Virtual Learning"**, written and sent by Azam RASTGOO and Yousef NAMVAR, from Islamic Azad University, Ardabil Branch, Iran. They mentioned in their article that today, the traditional assessment methods are not enough for measuring students' ability. Internet and its technologies have a strong impact to change it and there are some new ways to measure students' ability and knowledge. This article identifies some assessment methods and tools in online education and describes findings that show the importance of online assessment and online technologies. It also describes some advantages and disadvantages of new methods of assessment.

**Additionally this article review some valuable effects of using new methods such as e-portfolios, online self and peer-assessment in providing in time and good feedback for student, increasing students' participation, improving students learning achievement and increasing their abilities in this area.**

**The Second article is on "WBL To Promote Lifelong Learning Among Farmers From Developing Countries: Key Strategies", written by Dr. Pradeep Kumar MISRA from Rohilkhand University, INDIA. He defends in his article of Web Based Learning (WBL) can support us in this cause because world over it is increasingly recognized as a viable and learner-friendly approach. In this background, the present paper attempts to discuss about need and challenges of lifelong learning for farmers and proposes key strategies for providing Web based lifelong learning to farmers of developing countries.**

**The third articles are from Nigeria. The third one is on "Sustainability Indices As Measures of Service Delivery in Open and Distance Learning Institutions in Nigeria", written by Dr. Salawu, I. O, Dr. Adeoye, F. A from School of Education, National Open University of Nigeria, Dr. Olugbenga David OJO and Felix Kayode OLAKULEHIN from National Open University of Nigeria. They mentioned that a appraisal of the extent to which two ODL institutions in Nigeria adhere to the principles of sustainability. A set of questionnaire was developed and used to collect data which were analyzed using simple non-parametric statistics. Suggestions which were aimed at improving the service delivery, in the institutions used for the study in particular, and other sister institutions especially in the developed countries were highlighted.**

**The 4<sup>th</sup> articles arrived from again Nigeria which is prepared on "Integrating Group-Self Evaluation In Open And Distance Learning System", written by Osuji, U. S., School Of Education, Lagos. This paper takes a look at the benefits of the group- self evaluation, the concept of Open and Distance Learning, characteristics of learners in Open and Distance Learning and integrating group- self evaluation in the Open and Distance Learning system.**

**The sixth article which is entitled as "A Physics Lesson Designed According To 7e Model with The Help Of Instructional Technology (Lesson Plan)", written by Selahattin GONEN and Serhat KOCAKAYA, from Dicle University, Diyarbakır, Turkey. Their article is base on that applied science studies field have to get possession of abilities that not only detect these misconceptions also help to solve these problems. Hence, instructional methods that correct students' misconceptions become important. In this sense, a material related to the physics course is designed according to 7E model with the help of instructional technology.**

**"A Comparison of Undergraduate Faculty and Millennial Students Regarding The Utilization of Weblog And Podcast Technology in A Teacher Education Department" sent by Leslie STURDIVANT ENNIS, J. D. And Elizabeth Anne GAMBRELL from Samford University Birmingham, Alabama USA. The main objective of the study is to compare the utilization of weblog and podcast technology by undergraduate university faculty and Millennial college students. This study is conducted to test the hypothesis, formed from existing literature, that there might be a difference in the utilization of weblog and podcast technology between faculty and Millennial students in a Teacher Education Department. One hundred surveys were utilized based upon the number of students currently enrolled in Teacher Education classes at the time of the study. Fifty-nine students and five undergraduate faculties participated in the survey.**

The study refuted the hypothesis that there is a difference in weblog and podcast utilization between faculty and Millennial students. There was no significant difference in the utilization of weblogs and podcasts in the two populations. The results indicate that the perceived technological gap between Millennial students and university faculty is not as prevalent as theorized by the existing literature.

The eighth article is again from Bangladesh, Presidency University. Titled article is on Professional Development of Higher Education Teachers: Can ODL Contribute?, written by Md. Jamal HOSSAIN. This paper, considering Levis' (2002) opinion about the necessity of e-learning, Goodson's (2000) principles of teacher professionalism, Nordkvelle's (2006) view on the challenge of ODL-organization, Boshier's (1971) Education Participation Scale (EPS), and Houle's (1961) philosophy of six classic needs of a practicing professional, tries to find out the role of ODL in the professional development of higher education teachers in Bangladesh on the basis of a study. The related survey involves a sample of more than 100 teachers from a number of ten private and public universities in Dhaka. It is expected that ODL might play a significant role in the professional development of tertiary level teachers in the country. The paper also explores the possible advantages teachers may enjoy and difficulties they may face in pursuit of these modes of education. The Ministry of Education can play a great role in alleviating the problems with and barriers to ODL. However, the academic heavyweights also have some responsibilities in this regard.

The 9th article is arrived to us from Turkey and written by Cem CUHADAR, Trakya University, Edirne, Turkey and Abdullah KUZU Anadolu University, Eskisehir, Turkey on Improving Interaction Through Blogs In A Constructivist Learning Environment. The study concludes that participants' needs regarding information sharing, instructional support and communication played an important role to improve interaction among participants and with the course instructor. Furthermore, it was observed that blogs could be used as tools to develop interaction in discussions and group works.

Next and the tenth article are written. The paper is entitled as "Role of Distance Education in the Expansion of Female Education Higher Level in Pakistan A Review". The paper investigated the role of distance education in the expansion of educational facilities for female at higher level of education in Pakistan. The findings of the study report that distance education is playing a vital role in the expansion of female education at higher level as such female who, due to some personal or social compulsions are not able to attend regular institution/university in order to enhance their educational, distance education proves to be a blessing for such females. AIOU is the pioneer in provision of distance education in Pakistan and at present it is playing a significant role in provision of better higher education facilities, especially female are enjoying from these educational facilities as the system of AIOU is flexible enough for female and it provides them equal opportunity to uplift their educational status in spite of the different hurdles in the way of getting higher education without disturbing their family or personal problems.

The eleventh article arrived from University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria, which is titled as "Rethinking the Competencies Of Instructional Designers As Information Architects", written by Ayse KOK. Study is focused on A Path-Analytic Study of Some Correlates Predicting Persistence And Student's Success in Distance Education in Nigeria, written by OJOKHETA, K. O.

His study examined the influence of some predictors in the enhancement of persistence and students success in distance education in the two most recognised and respected distance learning institutions in Nigeria—the Distance Learning Institute (DLI) of University of Lagos and Distance Learning Centre of University of Ibadan. Four research questions were formulated to ascertain the relative contribution of each predictor to persistence and students success.

The article is which numbered as 12, from Nigeria again. Article is entitled as “The Private Cost of National Certificate in Education (NCE) Through National Teachers Institute Distance learning Programme in Ekiti State, Nigeria”, written by Matthew BORODE University of Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria. The study is set out to examine the private cost of National Certificate in Education, through the distance learning mode as organized by the National Teachers Institute (NTI) Ekiti State branch in Nigeria. It was found out that tuition fees accounted for the percentages of students’ expenditure, followed by examination fees, and mid-day meal. Library, sports and development levy are not relevant for this type of student. The federal Government of Nigeria could subsidize the tuition fees for the prospective grade II teachers so as to ease their problem because majority of them are unemployed.

The thirteenth article is from Karadeniz Technical University, Fatih Faculty of Education, Trabzon, Turkey on “E-Book Usage of Graduate Students Studying Educational Sciences in Turkiye” which is written by Sakine ONGOZ and Adnan BAKI. The aim of this survey study is to detect some data that can be generalized about the graduate students’ state of using printed and electronic resources. A questionnaire, developed by Ebrary, one of the largest e-book suppliers of the world, was used as the data gathering tool. After the studies for improving the reliability and validity of the questionnaire, a questionnaire form with 16 items was obtained. 634 questionnaires were sent to graduate students *via* e-mail, 130 of them were sent back and 125 questionnaires were evaluated for the study. Concerning all the data, it was concluded that majority of the graduate students are aware of the comfort of the e-resources and prefer to use these resources academically.

Four books are reviewed in this issue. The first one is about China’s Radio And TV Universities and the British Open University: A Comparative Study, written by Wei, RUNFANG, in 2008 and Reviewed by Desmond KEEGAN, Distance Education International, Dublin, Ireland. He mentioned that Wei addresses these problems by setting out her book in a structure which studies side by side the characteristics of the Chinese network and the British university. In this she is very successful and produces a major book based on in-depth research into both Chinese and British education, backed up by detailed citation of both British and Chinese government educational documentation (all Chinese documentation is cited in English). The book has 8 chapters, 394 pages and about 155.000 words.

The second reviewed book is written by Schlosser, L. A. & Simonson on DISTANCE EDUCATION: Definition And Glossary Of Terms, 3rd edition, in 2009 and reviewed by Ozlem OZAN Eskisehir Osmangazi University, Turkey. Reviewer Ozan emphasizes that this book is clear, informative, and provides distance education terminology in a way that is applicable and easy to understand. As mentioned earlier, this is one of the basic books in the field of distance education. It can be used both experts in the field and anyone who is interested in distance education.

The third reviewed book is edited by Niki LAMBROPOULOS from HCI research fellow at London South Bank University and Margarida ROMERO who is researcher on learning innovation and educational psychology. The on Educational Social Software For Context-Aware Learning Collaborative Methods and Human Interactions, published in 2009 by Information Science Reference and also, reviewed by Dr. Adile Askim KURT, Faculty of Education Anadolu University, Eskisehir, Turkey. The book, which 26 authors from nine different countries contributed to, includes four sections and 14 chapters.

The last book review is Cases on Collaboration in Virtual Learning Environments: Processes and Interactions edited by Russell, D. for 2010 and published by Information Science Reference. The book is reviewed by Yasin OZARSLAN Eskisehir Osmangazi University, Turkey. Reviewer indicated that The book's broader audience is anyone who is interested in areas such as collaborative virtual learning environments, interactive technologies and virtual communities, social interaction and social competence, distance education and collaborative learning.

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Hope to stay in touch and meeting in our next Issue,  
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Cordially,

Prof. Dr. Ugur Demiray Editor-in-Chief  
Anadolu University Yunusemre Campus 26470-Eskisehir TURKEY  
Tel: +90 222 335 0581 ext. 2521 or 2522  
GSM: +90 542 232 21 167 Fax: +90 222 320 4520 or  
Emails: [udemiray@anadolu.edu.tr](mailto:udemiray@anadolu.edu.tr) or [ugdemiray@hotmail.com](mailto:ugdemiray@hotmail.com)  
URL: <http://www.ugurdemiray.com>  
URL: <http://tojde.anadolu.edu.tr>