

From the Editor

Dear Readers of TOJDE;

I am pleased to inform you that Vol.:4, Number:4 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 12th time, since 2000 January.

In this issue place has been given to seven articles too, book review, six news, and three links deal with Anadolu University take place. This issue's articles came from Egypt, India, Malaysia, Thailand, and Turkey according to alphabetical order.

The first article is dealt with "ICT & The Future of Distance Education", written by V. Venugopal Reddy and Manjulika Srivastava, from India. In their article it is mentioned that "the adoption of ICTs has opened up new fundamentally different options for higher education both in how to run the business of higher education as well as in methodologies of teaching and learning. More institutions are involved in distance education today than at any other time in history. Distance education has truly moved to the centre stage today".

The second article is from Thailand and written by Pichai Tongdeelert Asst. Prof. from Department of Agricultural Extension and Communication, Faculty of Agriculture, Kasetsart University, article is entitled as "A Proposed Collaborative Computer Network-Based Learning Model for Undergraduate Students with Different Learning Styles". An article points out that a way to solve this problem by developing Collaborative Computer Network Based Learning model for all student learning styles to receive effective learning at the same level by using KOLB's learning styles. By supporting learning activities for this developing prototype model, designers can integrate collaborative learning technologies and collaborative learning strategies in the design and development process. The result from this process is an appropriate Collaborative Computer Network Based Learning model for higher education level.

The third article arrived to TOJDE from Egypt which is about "Directions for Future Research in On-line Distance Education", written by Alaa Sadik from Faculty of Education South Valley University. His paper contains and points out that most of online learning studies investigated the effectiveness of Web-based interaction or Internet conferencing on learning, not the entire learning environment. Even in those studies that investigated entire on-line environments, student achievement was the most common indicator for evaluation and no other indicators or factors, which may influence students' achievement and perceptions, were investigated. This study sheds light on current research in online learning and provides guidelines for future research needed in this area.

The fourth article from Turkey. It is titled as " The Applications And Problems On The Distance Teacher Training In Turkey". Written by Dr. Salih Usun from Department of Educational Sciences, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, TURKEY. Dr. Usun paper focused on the international literature on utilizing distance education for teacher training in the world; explains some applications and major problems on using instructional media and technology programs in developing countries and Turkey; presents distance education and current scene of teacher training in Turkey; evaluates the national literature on utilizing distance education for teacher training in Turkey;and, finally, discusses the distance teacher training applications in Turkey comparing with developed countries.

The fifth article from Malaysia. It is entitled as "Self-Transitional Characteristics Of Distance Education Learners: A Case Study Of Three Malaysian Universities" and written H Atan, I Jaafar, S K Guan, N A Azli, Z A Rahman and R M Idrus, from School of Distance Education Universiti Sains Malaysia. In their study examined the self-transitional characteristics of learners enrolled in the distance education programmes at Universiti Malaysia, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and Universiti Teknologi MARA (formerly known as Institut Teknologi Mara). The aspects of the self-transitional characteristics studied included study skills, recreational activities, health, finance, and religious activities.

The sixth article is again from India. It is entitled as "Impact of Electronic Media in Distance Education: A Study of Academic Counsellor's Perception" written by Dr. Ashwini Kumar, R C Sharma and R V Vyas. In their article describe empirical findings related to the perceptions of the academic counselors on impact of using electronic media in teaching learning process of distance education system. The quality of assignment attempt by the learners, their active participation in counseling sessions, performance in Term-End Examinations, improvement in their skill of understanding the facts, attendance during counselling sessions and the over all performance of the learners were considered as the indicators for judging the impact of electronic media for the purpose of this study.

The seventh and last article is entitled "Issues and challenges for Non Formal Education A case study of Indira Gandhi National open University (IGNOU) With Reference to J&K State" written by Dr. Renu Nanda from IGNOU, India. Her paper indicates that in today's world means and resources to seek knowledge are so enormous and diverse, that the process of learning has become deinstitutionalised. The pattern of education and its delivery mechanism, changes in higher education, keeping India in view, have traditionally been slow, interms of its pattern and delivery, mainly because of its elitist nature and the ivory tower existence of its institutions.

In this issue's "Reviews" section contains one book review. It is entitled as "The Desing & Management of Effective Distance Learning Programs" Edited by Richard DISCENZA, Caroline HOWARD and Karen D. SCHENK, Published by IDEA Group Publishing-IGI, Hersey, London, Melbourne, Singapore, Beijing, ISBN 1-930708-20-3, pp.i-v, 300 pages. Reviewed by me. This book must be emphasized since it draws attraction to gender issues related to distance education practices. Thus, the book provides diversity and richness of the content for readers. It will serve as a major source of information and knowledge for further research not only for students, distance educators, researchers and policy makers around the globe but also for industrialists and business exclusives who are today players in the global higher education market place. In other words is an important resource for distance education all over the world.

This Issue's Featured Journals Are: The International Journal of Distance Education Technologies (JDET) and EDUCAUSE Quarterly.

Some columns in the News section of TOJDE are still keep in this issue too. For example, "some statistical data and figures" column is kept dealing with the past issues (Vol.:4 No.:3) 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> 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 .

Happy readings.

Hope to stay in touch and meet in next issue on January 2004.

Cordially Yours,

Prof. Dr. Ugur Demiray

Editor-in-Chief

Anadolu University Yunusemre Campus 26470-Eskisehir TURKEY

Tel:+90 222 335 0581 ext. 2521 or Direct: +90 222 249 0576

GSM:+90 542 232 21 167

Voice and Video number:+90 222 249 1094

Fax: +90 222 320 4520 or+90 222 249 0576

E-mails: udemiray@anadolu.edu.tr or ugdemiray@hotmail.com

URL: <http://home.anadolu.edu.tr/~udemiray>

URL: <http://tojde.anadolu.edu.tr>

PRINT

RETURN