

Dear TOJDE Readers,

Welcome to IODL Special Issue of TOJDE.

International Open & Distance Learning Conference (IODL 2019) was held between 14-16 November 2019 at Anadolu University, Eskisehir, Turkey with the participation of 140 national and 125 international researchers. 149 scientific studies were presented in a total of 31 sessions. After the review process, 11 papers were accepted for publication in the IODL Special Issue of TOJDE. 27 authors from 7 different countries contributed to the issue. These countries are Colombia, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Thailand, Turkey and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The articles are ordered alphabetically according to the first names of the first authors.

AN EVALUATION OF CLASSROOM TEACHERS' OPINIONS ON ONLINE MATERIAL PREPARATION TRAINING THROUGH MOOC AND BLENDED EDUCATION MODEL authored by Ahmet ARNAVUT, Huseyin BICEN and Vasfi TUGUN is the first article. The aim of this study is to increase the awareness of primary, secondary and high school teachers regarding Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) as well as to help them to benefit from these media and to determine their opinions about these courses. In the study, blended training was given to 33 teachers, whereas a complete online course on a formed platform was given to 34 teachers; consequently, the opinions and the success levels of the teachers were compared.

The title of the 2nd article is EDUCATION 4.0: DEFINING THE TEACHER, THE STUDENT, AND THE SCHOOL MANAGER ASPECTS OF THE REVOLUTION. The authors are Beyza HIMMETOGLU, Damla AYDUG and Coskun BAYRAK. This qualitative research aims to determine the school managers', teachers' and students' characteristics of Education 4.0 according to opinions of educational experts. Content analysis is applied to the data obtained from 10 faculty members selected with snowball sampling. The results are expected to operationalize Education 4.0 revolution in education system for the case of Turkish Education System.

The 3rd article NEED FOR ACCREDITATION AGENCIES AS STAKEHOLDERS IN OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING: CASE OF "AUDAK" IN TURKISH HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM is written by Elif TOPRAK and Asuman Nurhan SAKAR. This paper gives brief history about integration of Turkey to Bologna process that has shaped the quality approach in the Turkish Higher Education System and explains how national accreditation agencies act to enhance quality in higher education. Secondly, a short literature on quality assurance in open and distance learning is provided with concentration on external evaluation by agencies. Thirdly, the interpretation of European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015) for quality assurance in distance learning/e-learning and the adaptation of accreditation criteria to monitor compliance with pre-determined learning outcomes is elaborated through different models and benchmarks. As case-study, a new association founded in Turkey, AUDAK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Open and Distance Education Programs) is introduced and its standards are discussed with an eye to the related literature and recent developments in Turkish higher education system.

SECOND LIFE: A THREE-DIMENSIONAL VIRTUAL WORLD FOR DEVELOPING THAI EFL LEARNERS' ENGLISH COMMUNICATION SKILLS is the title of 4th article, and the author is Hambalee JEHMA. This quasi-experimental research aims to investigate if applying the Second life, a virtual platform, in the English communication classroom is highly effective. Other factors such as the gender differences, the difference of majors of study, and the number of hours spent on computers were also investigated. The Second life has been employed as a research tool in the study for developing English as a foreign language undergraduate students' English communication skills. The data are obtained from 40 undergraduate students from two different majors, social sciences and science, who were studying English course at the university as a compulsory subject. The findings show that students with different backgrounds which were genders, fields of study, and hours of spending the computers have indifferent mean scores in their communication skills.

Kamil CEKEROL and Emin Ozen are the authors of the 5th article titled EVALUATION OF TEACHERS' TECHNOLOGICAL PEDAGOGICAL CONTENT KNOWLEDGE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION NETWORK AND OTHER VARIABLES. The aim of this study is to examine the relationship between Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) of teachers teaching at different levels of educational institutions and demographic information about them as well as their technology and Educational Information Network (EIN) use. 364 teachers voluntarily participated in the study by filling out the data collection tool. The results of the study revealed that the teachers find themselves competent in terms of TPACK factors and there are significant differences between TPACK factors and demographic information about the participants as well as their technology and EIN use.

The title of the 6th article is EFFICIENCY OF BIOMETRIC RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY BASED ON TYPING DYNAMICS IN MOOC. Manuel MEDINA-LABRADOR, Marcela Georgina GOMEZ-ZERMENO and Lorena ALEMAN DE LA GARZA are the authors. The objective of this research is to analyze the independence of the keystroke tool of the other demographic, socio-graphic and behavioral variables within a MOOC, establishing an initial pattern, and two authentication measurements throughout the course. The results show that the keystroke is independent of the analyzed variables, and it is reliable to identify the students in qualitative tests with extension answers.

INVESTIGATING STUDENT SATISFACTION IN ONLINE LEARNING: THE ROLE OF STUDENT INTERACTION AND ENGAGEMENT IN DISTANCE LEARNING UNIVERSITY is the 7th article. Moh. MUZAMMIL, Adrian SUTAWIJAYA and Meirani HARSASI are the authors. This quantitative study utilizing structural equation modelling aims to analyze student satisfaction and engagement effect in online learning which are influenced by student interaction. The results of the study which was carried out in an open and distance learning university in Indonesia indicate that interaction among students, interaction between students and teacher, and interaction between students and content have positive impact on student engagement. The results also show that student engagement has positive impact on student satisfaction.

The authors of the 8th article are Murat Dogan SAHIN, Hakan KILINC and Hakan ALTINPULLUK. The title is AN ANALYSIS OF THE LONGITUDINAL MEASUREMENT INVARIANCE OF THE SOCIAL PRESENCE SCALE DEVELOPED FOR OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS. This study aims to portray the longitudinal invariance of the Social Presence Scale (Çakmak, Çebi & Kan, 2014), which is frequently used to determine the social presence in open and distance learning environments research and has confirmed construct validity in the literature, through repeated measurements obtained in an experimental study. The findings indicate the conditions required for measurement invariance in each stage, or in other words, the longitudinal invariance of the scale was achieved.

Rhini FATMASARI is the author of the 9th article. The title of this article is INTEGRATION OF BALANCED SCORECARD AND SIX SIGMA IN MEASURING OPEN UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC SERVICES PERFORMANCE. This study aims to measure the performance of Open University academic services with the integration of Balanced Scorecard (BSC) and Six Sigma in the field of academic services. Through this integration, performance measurement is focused on quality control by exploring UT's academic service system as a whole and combined with four perspectives in the Balanced Scorecard. The results show that students are very satisfied with UT's academic services which include programs of distance education and programs, models, teaching materials (modules and non-print teaching materials), face-to-face tutorials and online tutorials, learning assistance counselling services, and learning evaluation. Meanwhile, measurement using Six Sigma shows that UT academic services are at level 3, which means there are still some UT services that are not perfect, especially in tutorial and teaching materials services.

The 10th article which is authored by Safinoor SAGORIKA and Shinobu HASEGAWA is titled DESIGN OF VIDEO AIDED RETENTION TOOL FOR THE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS IN SELF-DIRECTED VIDEO-BASED LEARNING. This research proposes to design the Video Aided Retention Tool (VART) system for analyzing video content to improve self-directed video-based learning among Health Care Professionals (HCPs). The VART consists of a combination of video tracking, analyzing, and filtering tools, with the integration of domain model, learners' model, and e-teaching strategy model to aid

in self-directed learning. The proposed VART will pick important videos on a single topic and put automatic indexes to represent the essential parts of video content. It will also track the learner's ID, content preference, monitor watching duration, and repetition of the content. Using such kind of data, attention, and retention will be determined and filtered reels, recommendations, interactive videos will be provided to the learners.

The 11th and the last article is written by Y. Zafer Can UGURHAN, Evrim GENC KUMTEPE, Alper Tolga KUMTEPE and Abdullah SAYKILI. The title is FROM MEDIA LITERACY TO NEW MEDIA LITERACY: A LENS INTO OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING CONTEXT. This study seeks to investigate the new media literacy levels of open and distance learners who primarily depend on ICT to access tertiary education. Besides, the study examines the relationship between demographic information of learners and their new media literacy skills.

Hope to meet again in the next issue of TOJDE.

Cordially,

Dr. T. Volkan YUZER

Editor in Chief