

From Editors

Welcome to the second issue of the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL ON NEW TRENDS IN EDUCATION AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS – IJONTE.

In this issue the foreword is written by our esteemed colleague Ramesh C. SHARMA who is Professor in educational technology and is currently working as regional director in Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU). Now he is Director Institute of Distance and Continuing Education, University of Guyana. Our thanks go to him. In addition this issue contains 7 articles are from 4 different Countries with 10 authors.

The first article is sent from Greece, on Sociological And Psychological Dimensions of E-Learning, which is written Prof. Dr George S. Mouzakitis is the Manager of the LinkedIn Group entitled “e-Learning Think Tank Team”. His paper presents that the state of our civilization people have time off work, which, however, is not adequate to give the workforce the chance to upgrade their qualifications or to individuals to pursue educational courses through classroom attendance. Besides, economic problems are an additional problem for educational/ training courses delivery on campus. Finally, the conclusion part will provide recommendations on how sociological and psychological dimensions of e-learning can influence the most effective implementation of the system

The second paper written on Factors Affecting The Secondary School Teachers, In The Use Of Distance Learning For In-Service Training As Professional Development In Pakistan, by Muhammad Akhlaq and Shazia Munawar Sulehri. The purpose of their study was to investigate the factors which affect the school teachers in getting the further professional qualifications through the distance mode of Allama Iqbal Open University. For this purpose 300 in-services secondary schools teachers those who completed M.Ed from Allama Iqbal open university and 100 heads of secondary schools was taken as the sample of the study. The main objectives of the study were; to explain the status of teacher educations though distance-learning in Pakistan and to identify the obstacles in getting in-service professional training through distance education.

The third paper from India, Title of article is Quality Assurance & Distance Education System: Problems & Challenges, written by Mushtaq Ahmad Dar and Sabina Yeasmin. In their study, mentioned that the rationale of distance education is to ensure equal opportunities of education to disadvantaged sections of the society who, because of financial, geographical or time constraints, are not in a position to upgrade their education, knowledge and skills. Education being a dynamic process, the need of the hour is to use it in a positive direction with the changing demands of the society and thereby improve the living standards of the people. Keeping this in view, the purpose of this paper is to focus on the issues like: democratization of education through open and distance learning system, higher education and distance education system, and, development of strategies for the autonomy of Distance Educations institutions (DEIs) working under conventional university set up. The objectives of distance education make it clear that this system was expected to play a key role in democratization of higher education in a country. But one of the major problems in our country has been that distance education has to operate within the framework of a conventional university under hostile circumstances.

The fourth article arrived from North Cyprus Turkish Republic, on Online Pronunciation Resources: Hobbies or Fobbies Of EFL Teachers? Subject which is written by Murat Hismanoglu. This aims at revealing whether language teachers use online resources to teach pronunciation to their students or not, what they think of using online pronunciation teaching resources, whether there is a correlation between age and using online pronunciation teaching resources, and whether there is a correlation between teaching experience and using online pronunciation teaching resources. 109 language teachers working in preparatory schools of five different universities in North Cyprus participated in the present study. The results of the study exhibited that 36 (%33) of language teachers made use of online resources to teach pronunciation to their students. However,

73 (% 67) of the language teachers responded that they did not use online resources to teach pronunciation to their students.

The fifth article from again Pakistan on Factors Conducive For The Purposeful Use Of Libraries Among University's Students In Pakistana which is written by Syed Manzoor H. Shah and Saadia Saleem. They mentioned in their article that Libraries play a key role in developing reading habits among students. In Pakistan's educational set up, libraries are not functioning in the true sense due to many reasons and students get no opportunities for reading additional books apart from their course books. These poor reading habits continue at the college level or even in university. The present study was designed to find out the factors conducive for the effective use of library among university students in Pakistan. It was planned to achieve the objectives i.e to identify the conducive factors for library use, library resources motivating students, the impact of teachers' motivation for students toward the use of libraries, importance of physical facilities for attracting students toward libraries. To investigate these objectives, two questionnaires were developed each for teachers and students on five point Likert scale. The study concluded that university teachers motivate students through library related tasks for the use of library. Students' own interest, library environment, librarian and other staffs' attitude and availability of necessary facilities are various important factors for the use of library.

The sixth article is on Reflective Practice-A Creative Means Of Teaching, written by B. Venkateswara Rao and D.Samrajya Lakshmi from India. The aim of this paper is to discuss One cannot say that a particular method is the only method of teaching a particular concept. The teacher, who is a researcher as well, used traditional method of teaching i.e. explaining the content from the textbook. However, students did not fail to respond to the method used but felt difficulty in learning and applying the concept. Then Teacher realized through oral and written feedback the difficulty faced by students and changed his mode of teaching.

The Last but not least, the seventh paper belongs to Muhammad Akhlaq on Peer Review On The Competencies Of Teachers Trained Through Distance Mode In Pakistan. The purpose of this study was to investigate the factors which affect the school teachers in getting the further professional qualifications through the distance mode of Allama Iqbal Open University. For this purpose 300 in-services secondary schools teachers those who completed M.Ed from Allama Iqbal open university and 100 heads of secondary schools was taken as the sample of the study. The main objectives of the study were, to explain the status of teacher educations through distance-learning in Pakistan and to identify the obstacles in getting in-service professional training through distance education.

Dear IJONTE readers, in this issue we have not yet established the Notes for Editor, and Reviews section. We are planning to organize and establish these sections very soon. We expect your studies to these sections in due course.

You can reach us online <http://www.ijonte.org> and please send your thoughts to ijonte2010@gmail.com

To receive further information and to send your recommendations and remarks, or for your submission for consideration, please contact with the IJONTE Secretariat by email at ijonte2010@gmail.com .

We trust you find this Issue exciting and enjoy reading the Articles.
Hope to meet again at 1st of October 2010

Editors

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