



## From the Editors

### Dear IJONTE readers,

IJONTE appears on your screen now as Volume 2, Number: 1. In this issue it publishes 8 articles from 4 different countries written by 15 authors. Articles are from India, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey.

The first article is from Turkey, on "A STUDY ON COMPUTER USAGE AND ATTITUDES OF PROSPECTIVE PRESCHOOL TEACHERS TOWARD COMPUTERS" written by Tamer KUTLUCA, from Ziya Gokalp Faculty of Education, Diyarbakir, Turkey. The purpose of this study is to determine the status of computer usage and the attitudes toward computers of prospective preschool teacher and to investigate several variables on their attitudes. For this purpose, "Computer Usage Information Form" and "Computer Attitude Scale" was applied to 126 prospective preschool teachers. This study is conducted with survey methods. The data is analyzed through standard deviation, mean value as well as t-test and one way ANOVA for group comparison, besides to find which group causes the difference in the group comparison, a PostHoc Tukey HSD test is employed. At the end of the study it is determined that the prospective preschool teachers use computers more at home and internet cafes and their levels of using computer programmes are intermediate or upper. It is also determined that there is a significant difference according to the variables of taking computer course, computer ownership, level of using computer program, frequency of computer usage, computer experience and class of the scores of attitudes toward computers. On the other hand, there is no significant difference according to the variables of gender. It is recommended that future studies should focus on investigating academicians' level of usage of computer program and attitudes toward computer technologies.

The second article is on "ATUTOR SOFTWARE AND MEDICAL EDUCATION: Experience of Using an Open source Learning Software", written by Reza ASSADI, Director of e-Learning center, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, Mashhad and Mirkhani ATIEH Master Student of Medical Information Technology Management, Amir Kabir University, Tehran and IT Manager of Bina Ophthalmology Hospital, Tehran, IRAN. This article focuses on supplementary resources for students and continuous medical education. Despite the initial resistance and challenges of using open source software without technical supports, the process was progressive and lead to development of education. Many conflicts and challenges were resolved in the first year of the study while some features of the software proved to be incapable for medical education learning material and usability rate in some tools was very low. Despite boundaries and difficulties in moving toward electronic learning for medical education, using open source softwares such as Atutor is possible and beneficial. Customizing the software, preparation of IT infrastructure and access to a technical team to develop and manage the virtual environment of e-learning is essential. Otherwise the system would not widely be accepted by users; this raises problems that lead to strongly negative feedback from tutors and learners.

The third article is from again Turkey. The study is on "TURKISH PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S OPINIONS RELATED TO THE INTERNET AWARENESS", conducted by Ali ERSOY, from Faculty of Education, Anadolu University, Eskisehir, Turkey. The purpose of the study is to examine the opinions of the primary school students on the Internet awareness with reference to some variables. Total 2911 participants from fourth to eighth grades in three public primary schools, which have middle socio-economic status participated in the study. The data were gathered through questionnaire and analyzed through descriptive statistics such as frequency, percentages and chi-square. The findings revealed that the Internet awareness of the participants shows significant difference in terms of their gender, grade levels, having Internet access at home, the location of Internet access, the purpose of the Internet use, the occupations, and educational backgrounds of the parents. It was observed that while male students focused more on the positive aspects of the Internet, the female students focused more on the unfavourable aspects of the Internet.

The fourth article arrived again from Iran, which is prepared on “A COMPARISON OF COMPUTER ANXIETY AMONG INDIAN AND IRANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS” Vandana MEHRA, from Panjab University, Chandigarh, INDIA and Faranak OMIDIAN Islamic Azad University, Dezfool, IRAN. The authors deal with computer anxiety among Indian and Iranian university students in relation to country type, faculty type and gender. A total of 800 post-graduate students of different faculties and departments of Panjab University (India) and University of Tehran (Iran) were the sample of the present study. The data were collected through computer anxiety rating scale (CARS) validated by Embi (2007). 2x2x2 ANOVA design was employed to study computer anxiety of Indian & Iranian male & female university students belonging to different faculties. The results indicated that country type, faculty type and interaction between country type and faculty type had significant effect on university students’ computer anxiety scores.

The fifth article which is entitled as “DETERMINING INTERPERSONAL ATTRACTION IN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND THE RELATION WITH MOTIVATION”, written by Figen Ünal ÇOLAK, Anadolu University, Faculty of Communication Sciences and Kadriye KOBAK, Anadolu University, Eskişehir, TURKEY. The main aim of this research is behaviors and motivations of the students on the instructor’s social, physical and instructional attractiveness. This research is a descriptive work. 258 students who have studied in Anadolu University Communication Sciences Faculties Journalism, Cinema and Television, Public Relations, Advertising and Communication departments in 2008-2009 term participated in the research as volunteers. The instructor’s social, physical and instructional attractions and motivations were determined by using 5-point Likert scale. The participants are students enrolled in the courses of two professors, two associate professors, two assistant professors and two lecturers who are Communication Sciences Faculties staff and in both sexualities.

The sixth and the seventh articles come from Iran. The sixth is titled as “A STUDY OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS’ HAPPINESS AND EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTIONAL MANAGEMENT”, written by Vali Mehdinezhad, from Department of Education Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Sistan and Baluchestan, Zahedan, IRAN. This study focused on high school principals’ happiness and effective instructional management and also the relations between them. The methodology of this research was descriptive and correlative. The two questionnaires employed here were “*The Oxford Happiness Questionnaire*” and “*Principal Effectiveness Measures*” with five component measures of effective principal. SPSS 15 was used to produce Mean; Standard Deviations; Pearson Product Moment Correlation (r); t-test; and ANOVA. The results of the study showed that the high school principals described their happiness in high level and also in overall marked high scores on effective instructional management and components of effective management: Organizational Commitment (OC); Sense of Community (SoC); Productivity and Effort (PaE); Job Satisfaction (JS); and Employee Morale (EM). There was relatively high positive correlation between principals’ happiness and effective instructional management and components of effective management. The analysis of data showed that there were no significance differences on principals’ happiness and effective instructional management in terms of their background, such as age, sex, marital status, teaching and management experiences.

The sixth article deals with “THE EFFECT OF COMPUTER-MEDIATED FEEDBACK ON SECOND LANGUAGE READING COMPREHENSION”, written by Parisa Razagifard, Abdolkarim Ghabelnezam, Islamic Azad University of Meshkinshahr and Vida Razzaghi Fard Payamnour University of Meshkinshahr, Meshkinshahr, IRAN. The purpose of this study is to assess the potential of computer-mediated feedback for improving second language (L2) reading comprehension. To fulfill the purpose of the study, 60 upper-intermediate learners of English were randomly divided into two groups of experimental and control groups. The subjects of the experimental group were asked to read 8 prose passages, which ranged between 280 and 310 words in length, and answer multiple-choice questions after they have read each passage. Participants received immediate feedback in the form of Answer-Until-Correct (AUC) feedback for multiple-choice items. Results indicated that the students



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who received the computer-mediated feedback improved their reading comprehension significantly compared to their peers in the control group who did not receive feedback.

The article is which numbered as 8 is a joint study. Article is entitled as "ROLE OF ASSIGNMENT WORK IN DISTANCE AND NON-FORMAL MODE OF EDUCATION", written by Makhdoom Ali SYED from International Islamic University, Islamabad, PAKISTAN and Tariq MEHMOOD from International Islamic University, Islamabad, PAKISTAN, and Ziarab MAHMOOD and Hazara University, Mansehra, PAKISTAN. The research article deals with the evaluation of the role of assignments in learning through distance and non-formal mode of education. The study was delimited to the students enrolled in M. Ed and M. A. Education programs (with the specialization of Teacher education, Distance and non-formal education, Science education, and Special Education) during semesters, spring 2006 to spring 2008 in Rawalpindi region of Allama Iqbal Open University Islamabad, Pakistan.

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We hope you find this issue exciting and enjoy reading the articles.  
We wish you a prosperous New Year.

Hope to stay in touch and meet in our next issue on 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2011  
Cordially,

#### Editors

Prof. Dr. Zeki KAYA, Gazi University, Turkey.

Prof. Dr. Ugur DEMIRAY, Anadolu University, Turkey.