Dear TOJDE Readers,

Welcome to Volume 18, Number 3 of TOJDE,

There are 14 articles and 2 book reviews in July 2017 issue. 27 authors write these articles from 11 different countries. These countries are Ghana, Greece, Indonesia, Mexico, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Turkey, UK, Ukraine and USA.

The title of the 1st article is STUDENTS’ MEDIA PREFERENCES IN ONLINE LEARNING. Dr. Michiko Kobayashi is the author of this article. This study aims to explore students’ preferred media in online learning and its relationship with learner characteristics and online technology self-efficacy. Online technology self-efficacy is correlated with a type of media requiring a relatively higher level of technology skills.

ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE FACTORS FOR ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE RELATED BUSINESS COURSES IN A DISTANCE EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT is the title of the 2nd article. Dr. Serdar BENLIGIRAY and Ahmet ONAY are the authors of this article. This study explores business core course performance interrelations with a focus on accounting and finance courses. Analysis of the correlations between overall course scores provides interpretable information for the underlying performance factors.

The 3rd article is written by Angeliki GARIOU-PAPALEXIOU, Spyros PAPADAKIS, Evangelia (Gelly) MANOUSOU and Irene GEORGIADU. IMPLEMENTING A FLIPPED CLASSROOM: A CASE STUDY OF BIOLOGY TEACHING IN A GREEK HIGH SCHOOL is the title of the article. The purpose of this study is to investigate the application of the model of the “flipped classroom” as a complementary method to school distance education in junior high school Biology. The writers highlight that school distance education combined with the radical development of ICT can be complementary with the use of various methods, like the “flipped learning”, and give a new perspective and potential to the limited choices of conventional education in the Greek educational system which is worth further investigation.

The 4th article’s title is HOW DO THE FACULTY MEMBERS GO FOR TROLLS? A VIEW FROM AN EMERGING COUNTRY. Elif Bugra KUZU DEMIR, Baris MERCIMEK, Nihal DULKADIR YAMAN and H. Ferhan ODABASI are the authors. This study focuses on the findings of an exploratory, qualitative phenomenological study and investigates opinions and evaluations of faculty members about trolls encountered in social media and mass medium. The research was carried out in Anadolu University in Turkey. It concludes that purity, hazard and intelligence of trolls are still dubious facts for the Anadolu University faculty members.

The 5th article, titled LOYALTY, TRUST, SATISFACTION AND PARTICIPATION IN UNIVERSITAS TERBUKA AMBIANCE: STUDENTS’ PERCEPTION, is written by HERMAN. Factors affecting the loyalty of students in Universitas Terbuka are investigated in this article. The results showed that loyalty is significantly influenced by trust, satisfaction, participation and interaction between the independent variables. However, three out of four interaction variables contributed negatively to loyalty. Besides, the variances of independent variables, including their interactions, explain 60% of loyalty’s variance.
Asu ALTUNOGLU is the author of the 6th article. INITIAL PERCEPTIONS OF OPEN HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS WITH LEARNER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS is the title. This study aims to investigate the initial perceptions of students experiencing the Learner management systems (LMS) for the first time in the Open Education System of Anadolu University with the purpose of identifying the effective and ineffective aspects of it from their perspective and their demands and suggestions for how to improve their the engagement in the system.

SEEING GOOGLE THROUGH THE EYES OF TURKISH ACADEMICIANS is the title of the 7th article. Dr. Turgay ALAKURT and Dr. Salih BARDAKCI are the authors. In this study, results offer important insights about the academicians' perceptions of Google and how and why they make use of Google products.

The 8th article is written by Dr. Christopher Yaw KWAAH and Gabriel ESSILFIE. The title of this article is STRESS AND COPING STRATEGIES AMONG DISTANCE EDUCATION STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST, GHANA. The results of the study show that 'academic workload', 'high frequency of examinations', 'financial problems' and family/marriage problems' are the major causes of stress among the students.

Hasan TANIS and Ian BARKER are the authors of the 9th article. The title is E-MENTORING AT A DISTANCE: AN APPROACH TO SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN WORKPLACES is the title. This research project was conducted in a governmental company as a case study in order to study how the participants of mentoring understand their roles, and how they perceive these roles when communicating through Skype and e-mail. The project culminates in suggestions for a new e-mentoring model for practitioners.

The 10th article is written by Shesha Kanta PANGENI, and the title is ISSUES IN E-RESEARCH: LOG IN/OUT VIRTUAL FIELDS. This study focuses on methodological issues of the Internet mediated research (e-Research) with particular focus on virtual fields. It explores and discusses on possible sources of data, methods of data collection, process of analysis and ethical issues to adopt research with virtual fields.

COLLABORATIVE WORK COMPETENCY IN ONLINE POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND ITS PREVALENCE ON ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT is the title of the 11th article. Marisela CASTILLO, Yolanda HEREDIA and Katherina GALLARDO are the authors. The purpose of this research establishes a relationship between the level of collaborative work competency and the academic performance of students in an online master’s degree program. Results confirms a positive correlation between high level of collaborative work competency and academic achievement. Didactic recommendations of this study includes collaborative learning activities as one way to promote useful academic and personal skills development.

Daniah ALABBASI writes the 12th article. EXPLORING GRADUATE STUDENTS’ PERSPECTIVES TOWARDS USING GAMIFICATION TECHNIQUES IN ONLINE LEARNING is the title. The results point out a positive perception toward the use of gamification tools in online learning among graduate students. Students require effort-demanding, challenging, sophisticated learning systems that increase competency, enhance recall memory, concentration, attentiveness, commitment, and social interaction.

The title of the 13th article is CLOUD COMPUTING TECHNOLOGIES IN WRITING CLASS: FACTORS INFLUENCING STUDENTS’ LEARNING EXPERIENCE, and the author is Dr. Jenny
WANG. The proposed interactive online group within the cloud computing technologies as a main contribution of this paper provides easy and simple access to the cloud-based Software as a Service (SaaS) system and delivers effective educational tools for students and teacher on after-class group writing assignment activities.

The 14th article’s title is E-COACHING, E-MENTORING FOR LIFELONG PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHERS WITHIN THE SYSTEM OF POST-GRADUATE PEDAGOGICAL EDUCATION. Vasyl KOVALCHUCK and Iryna VOROTNYKOVA are the authors. The research considers the readiness of teachers and postgraduate pedagogical educational establishments to use e-coaching and e-mentoring which can provide continuous professional development of teachers.

There are two book reviews in this issue. CALL TEACHER EDUCATION: LANGUAGE TEACHERS AND TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION is the title of the 1st book. The author of this book is Simone TORSANI. The reviewer is Yildiz TERZIOGLU.

Other book’s title is INSPIRING THE SECONDARY CURRICULUM WITH TECHNOLOGY: LET THE STUDENTS DO THE WORK. James SHEA and Antony STOCKFORD are the authors. Dr. Marium DIN is the reviewer of this book.

Hope to meet you in the next issue of TOJDE.
Cordially,

Dr. T. Volkan YUZER
Editor-in-Chief