

From the Editor

Dear readers of TOJDE,

Welcome to the third issue of the The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education-TOJDE, an online publication of the Anadolu University in Eskisehir, Turkey. Some of my thinkings have well known from back issue's readers of TOJDE which mentioned main idea and sprit of TOJDE why appeared in the literature. I would like to brief emphasize for the new readers of TOJDE's Vol.:2, Nuber:1.

Anadolu University is at the forefront of new relationships between technology and the practices of education in Turkey by having a distance education learners population at more than half a million, it is one of the mega-universities world-wide on distance education field.

The TOJDE reflects that the disciplines of Distance Education/Learning, Open Learning areas are interdependent with one another, as education and technology increasingly affects our system, students, colleagues, distance educators, administrators, researchers and our own professional practice.

With this issue, TOJDE is appeared at the end of January 2001. As mentioned before the TOJDE aims to establish new channels of communication the for the distance education world in general, but for the regions and countries such as North Africa (Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria), Middle East (Israel, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Afghanistan), New Turkic Republics (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan), Eastern Europe (Hungary, Romania, Poland, Checzoclvia, Croatia, Bosnia), Baltic Republics (Estonia, Letonia, Lithuania, Moldova, Ukraine) etc., in specific beside USA, Canada, Australia, India, UK, Germany so on.

Among the goals of the TOJDE are to share experiences on effective use of distance education in formal and non-formal education, to provide a communication network among distance education experts in order to able to define new strategies for dealing with the issues of distance education. International in scope, this scholarly e-journal will publish refereed articles focusing on the issues and challenges of providing research and information services to students enrolled at any of level of distance education. It will particularly strive to meet the continuing education needs of practitioners by providing a forum for the discussion of extended learning policies and practices, and trends in information technologies as they impact the delivery of any kind of the student support services for distance learners and institutions.

In this issue, seven articles have been published from Israel, Turkey, France and USA. The first article is written by Professor Edna APHEK from Israel, which is titled as " KAMRAT: The Story of a Virtual Multicultural Learning Community in Israel". This article explains application and the results of the KAMRAT Project in the contex of multicultural learning experience of Israeli and Arabic community.

The second article is dealt with Anadolu University's distance education application, written by Prof. Dr. Ali Ekrem OZKUL who is Dean of Open Education Faculty. This detailed article contains Anadolu University's experience. It was published by Viva Books Pvt. Limited, in India as a book titled as "THE WORLD OF OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING" which edited V. Venugopal Reddy and Manulika Srivastav during late 2000. All official permission is given to the Tojde for publishing online version of the article. Steering Committee of the TOJDE is decided that it will be very useful to reach wider audiences, researchers and readers once more who need to learn about Anadolu University's experience via publishing once more in electronic form like Tojde. I hope, it will be very interesting and useful for Tojde's readers too.

Asst. Prof. Dr. Maria Elena REYES and Dr. Claudette BRADLEY are from School of Education University of Alaska Fairbanks-USA send their article which is titled as "THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM TO RURAL ALASKA: Web-Based Professional Development For Teachers". This article tells about application of teachers' development, via web-Based education method in rural Alaska experience. It shows the using and benefits of the new web-based technologies in distance learning. This article has placed as third article in the Tojde's pages.

The fourth article arrived from the Centre for Advanced Learning Technologies INSEAD Fontainebleau -FRANCE, by Giovanni Giacometti CERONI. He has written on "Success Drivers in an Electronic Performance Support Project" Article serves the results of the application which has been installed and extensively tested in 4 pilot organizations. The Center for Advanced Learning Technologies (CALT) of the INSEAD Business School has monitored these four pilot tests, collecting data through questionnaires, interviews and analysis of the log files. These data have been used to assess the impact of the adoption of an IT system like BOPS in the target organizations. This impact analysis focuses on the points which are benefits (improvements in efficiency, training and quality of work); barriers to the adoption, both external (social and legislative) and internal (company culture); potential organizational changes due to new processes and practices introduced by BOPS and resistances to change and effectiveness of change management plans.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Gulsen BAGCI KILIC from Abant Izzet Baysal University Bolu-TURKEY sent her article has been written on "Descriptive Study of Student's Attitudes Toward Communicating Computers in an Elementary Science Methods Course". The aim of the study was to analyze the affect of using telecommunication technologies on pre-service teachers' attitudes toward computers and theirattitudes toward communicating on computers. She indicates that This research study was conducted in Indiana University in the fall semester of 1998-99 academic-year. A survey has been applied as pre-test and post-test to observe attitudinal change of students. Interesting findings are served in this fifth article.

As well known distance the rate of learning has increased by the help of argumenting variety of technologies. Television, in distance education, as an audio-visual medium, is one of the effective media in distance education by its characteristics like widespread coverage of audience, supplying equality of opportunity, transmitting the human resources to big audience mass. In distance education the lack of mutual interaction and face to face education are important. Assist. Prof. Dr. Mediha Saglik and Assist. Prof. Dr. Serap Ozturk from Anadolu University-Turkey have discussed in their article on using of television in Open Education Faculty (OEF) which gets benefit from educational television programs to prop up and to consolidate printed materials. Being parallel to tendency of individualism, OEF is producing live broadcasts which supplies face to face communication besides the programs providing the feeling of belonging over the students.

The latest article from University of Cameron-USA. Karen HARDIN mentions serial suggestion for effective distance learning to realize rehabilitation of old teachers in the new Classrooms in her article which titled as " The Old Teacher in the New Classroom: Suggestions For Effective Distance Instruction". According to her telling they have a discussion group that meets periodically throughout the semester to celebrate success and vent frustrations as well as update new techniques or train on new equipment. Clearly, preparation for an ITV course takes much more time than traditional courses. It may take three to five times longer to develop the first course, reducing to two to three times with experience. This project is summarized by Ms HARDIN.

In this issue's "Book Review" section a new book is reviewed by Professor Ali Simsek from Anadolu University-Turkey a new book titled as Sustaining Distance Training: Integrating learning technologies into the fabric of the enterprise, edited by Berge, Z. L.

(2000) San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. Dr. Simsek is declared that "This book is edited by Zane L. Berge who is one of the leading figures in the field of web-based distance learning. Total of thirty-three authors contributed to the chapters. Authors are either designers or managers of distance training, but all of them have considerable experiences in instructional design. The book contains twenty chapters in five distinct parts. There are twenty-six figures, twenty-one tables, and nine exhibits in the book. Each of these illustrations help better understands the topics or provokes fruitful thoughts, such as new questions and comments. The book also includes the list of figures, tables, and exhibits; information about the authors; appendices; glossary; references; and index. There are eighty references and eighty-eight glossary items at the end of the book".

Another book is reviewed by S. K. Pulist, Indira Gandhi National Open University-INDIA, titled as 'Distance Learning Technologies: Issues, Trends and Opportunities Linda LAU (ed) 2000'. Pulist has indicated that the volume is divided into sixteen chapters in all. The first four chapters develop gradually the theoretical foundation of distance learning. The next seven chapters throw light on various conceptual aspects of distance learning in online environment. The last five chapters cite cases of practical implementation of different technologies in distance learning. Also the volume is an effort in the direction of providing both academicians and practitioners with a body of knowledge and understanding of the distance learning technologies.

Dr. Gilly Salmon, from Open University Business School, United States Open University MBA Program Director has reviewed 6th International Online EDUCA Conference which held in Berlin on November 29th- December 1st 2000 for TOJDE's readers.

In the News section some columns are still keepeng with this issue too. For example, "some statically data and figures" are kept dealing with the second issue's visitor of Tojde (Vol.: 1 No.:2). Another subject is dealing with the some Tojde dealers and readers' feelings and their expressions which had sent to editor on TOJDE's perception, also has been kept too. This Column will be carry on at the other issues due. So that your feelings and expressions are always welcome to the TOJDE's Editorial. We believe that you will do your best expression on what did you felt about TOJDE in due course. Another column is kept which contain article dealing with Anadolu University published in journals etc.

One of my colleagues from Free University was sent brief announcement about her institution for placing in Tojde. I decided that this announcement will be beneficial for Tojde's and other potential readers.

A a new subject, TOJDE's links are getting more and more from day to day in the electronic medium. Some journals, printed journals and university libraries are add TOJDE to their database. In this issue you will see some of these links. I hope it will be so intresting to see your institution in this column.

TOJDE will join with The Malaysian Journal of Distance Education-MJDE- as a "SISTER JOURNAL" in due course. MJDE is also a new journal in the field of distance education from Malaysia. Our writting are going well with the MJDE's Steering Committee. I hope we will sing an agrement soon between Anadolu University and Universiti Sains Malaysia Rectors. Announcement statement of MJDE placed in this issue for TOJDE's reader.

End of the year of 2000, past issues of TOJDE's Volume: 1 Number: 1 and Volume: 1 Number: 2 are printed in CD-ROM form. Additional, CD-ROM includes 5 pages detailed information about CD-ROM. Is anyone or institution want to obtain o copy of it, it is available from Tojde.

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> and go to the 'index' page 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

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