

EDITORIAL NOTE

For postgraduate students, arriving at the thesis defense presentation or *viva voce* with published work has shifted from desirable condition to necessity. In fact, some tertiary institutions have denied graduation of the students without securing a peer-reviewed article in scholarly journals. Thus, it is essential for graduate students focusing as early as possible on publishing their work. With this notion, in this particular issue of 'Graduate Students Research on Education,' a series of articles produced by postgraduate students collaboratively with other scholars are presented. As education across all levels is transforming to corroborate to the needs of the 21st century, now is the opportune time to consider the current educational scenario, innovative ideas for meaningful transformation to be executed. The current scenario documents on the international performance of Malaysian students; influences of perceptions and attitude on various learning contexts; linguistic challenges encountered in learning and parents' hope and academic achievement. Proposed innovative ideas for execution of meaningful learning includes the use of technology, social media, creative pedagogy, continuous reflections of teaching processes and engaging in an international teaching practicum.

Current Educational Scenario

The special issue begins with Amani and Nordin reporting the relationship between student and teacher level variables on Trend for International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2011 science achievement among Malaysian students. Specifically, this article examined the effect of students' achievement when the science inquiry approach is considered. In the second article, Karpudewan and Chong investigated the effects of classroom learning environment and laboratory learning environment on lower secondary students' attitude towards learning science. In the third article, as the design of Instagram promotes community-centeredness, and supports the dissemination of authentic content that creates opportunities for meaningful interactions among language learners, university students' perceptions and attitudes towards the use of Instagram in English language writing was investigated (Ayuni, Al-Amin and Shaidatul). In addition to affective dimension, linguistic is documented as a challenge in students understanding mathematics word problems and recommended solutions to address the challenge

(Namirah and Kusnadi). Lim and Tan in their work further proposed that besides affective and cognitive dimensions, primary students' hope and their parents hope to contribute to the students' academic performance.

Innovative Ideas

Berlin et al., explored the experiences of an instructor and her learners concerning the authenticity of language and technology use in YouTube-aided ESL classroom and with the use of YouTube ESL practitioners is anticipated to be more creative in delivering the subject. Fung, Melissa and Shahabuddin examined the effects of self-reflection prompts in electronic learning journal on students' use of metacognitive strategies as these are the essential soft skills students need to bring to their workplace upon their graduation. Khor and Ruzlan investigated the effect of GeoGebra dynamic geometry software on students' cognitive skills in critical thinking, communication, collaborative, creative and innovative for geometry problem-solving in the topics of Shape and Space in supporting 21st century learning within the context of Mathematics Education. Mohammed et al., have designed and developed a mobile learning application for microelectronics. Jamal et al., proposed creative pedagogy as a strategy to address bullying behavior in schools. Lim et al., reported about the teachers' ability to reflect better upon exposure to multiple Lesson Study cycles. Kabilan et al., documented preservice teachers' international practicum experiences and suggested international exposure is a way forward for the student teachers to be trained as a good teacher.

Guest Editor:

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