
Let's Look Beyond the Borders of Our Specialty

Dear Readers,

You have just opened the first edition of the second volume of our shared ICTE Journal. We are glad to have gained the interest of both the readers and the authors. In this volume we want to share new information and findings regarding the dynamically evolving field of ICT in education. As far as the topics are concerned, this edition is well diverse. The reason for this diversity is explained toward the end of the editorial.

The first article "Use of E-portfolios in Education" was written by Viktor Fuglík (Department of Information Technology and Education, Faculty of Education, Charles University in Prague, CZ). For many organizations and teams the E-portfolio represents a very useful tool during the learning process and verification of effectiveness of the new technologies. The article offers a detailed comparison of different approaches and illustrates the usage possibility of the E-portfolio in the Czech Republic.

The second article "ICT on Four Levels of Inquiry-based Science Education in Environmental Education" is a collaboration of the authors Jana Přinosilová , Erika Mechlová and Svatava Kubicová (University of Ostrava, CZ). The article focuses on the description of the particular technologies that are available and in use in elementary schools in connection with the different levels of Inquiry-Based Science Education. The article also deals with the environmental education. It also contains a sample worksheet for the students of elementary schools.

The third article "Analysis of Children's Professional Orientation at Senior Primary Grade" is a collaboration of the authors Radim Badošek and Tereza Kimplová (Department of Pedagogical & School Psychology, Pedagogical Faculty, University of Ostrava). The article summarizes basic facts about the outputs of a research project which was focused on students' professional orientation as well as technical and practical competences of the second level students of elementary schools in the Moravian-Silesian Region (CZ). The results of the research, which show preferences of the interests structure, are very interesting and the entire article is certainly worth reading.

The appendix informs of the newly being built Science and Technology Center in Ostrava (CZ). Those interested can already try interactive exhibitions that are available in the open part of the center. In the world that was inspired by the novels of Jules Verne, visitors can learn about the technology and techniques which contributed to the development of the Ostrava industrial region. The ICT department of the Pedagogical Faculty of the University of Ostrava (CZ).cooperates with the center on preparing modern education with the use of ICT.



What is the reason of the thematic diversity of this issue then? Sure you will agree with us that interesting, original and inspiring ideas are often born on the borderline of different fields. There are cases when an analogy from a completely different field can be very inspiring when dealing with the problems of our field. Finally, none of us creative workers wants to recycle the same ideas over and over again and let our career become a routine. To achieve that goal it is necessary to have a deep insight not only into one's own specialty but also an overview of the entire field and related disciplines. These are the reasons for the thematic diversity of this volume of the ICTE Journal.

In future editions we would like to look further beyond the borders of our field again or offer the viewpoint of other disciplines on our field. We will welcome any cooperation in trying to fulfill these goals, should you be interested. If you are familiar with our field or know any particular authors whose view from the outside could be inspiring for other readers of the ICTE Journal, feel free to let us know.

Have an interesting and useful read.

Pavel Kapoun

Executive Editor