

ICTE Journal Has a New Look

Dear Readers,

After five years, we have decided to drastically change the look of (y)our ICTE Journal, especially the individual papers. A new template has been created which can be found on the Journal's website (<https://periodicals.osu.eu/ictejournal>). We hope that you will appreciate the new look, and that it will not only enhance your reading experience, but also help present your papers in the way they deserve. And since your opinion is very important to us, please do not hesitate to let us know what you think of the new design. Now let's take a closer look at the current issue.

The research of many authors is aimed at the use of basic principles of blended learning at different levels of education. In the paper "*Problems Affecting Successful Implementation of Blended Learning in Higher Education - the Teacher Perspective*", the authors describe the impact blended learning has on teachers. The paper presents the results of a quantitative study of a sample of high school teachers. The paper introduces four problematic areas teachers encounter in blended learning environments.

Not knowing the advantages of ICT that not result directly from its use prevents exploiting its full potential for educational purposes. The second paper in this issue presents the results of research on how user accounts and network drives could be used by elementary and high school students. The research was aimed at interviewing teachers and school network administrators in selected elementary and high schools.

However, ICT does much more than just help both teachers and students improve their knowledge and skills. Effective use of ICT resources is one of the ways to transform education in a dynamically developing society. ICT enables updates, repairs and modification of the characteristics of all interested parties with their resources and processes in real time. The paper "*Quality Hybrid Education Evaluation: Academic Staff Performance Assessment*" analyzes these possibilities in detail.

The factual and structural accuracy of concept maps can be automatically verified through well-known algorithms. Another important characteristic of a concept map is its cognitive efficiency. The paper "*Non-linear Forms of Knowledge Representation in Teaching and Their Evaluation According to Moody's principles of Graphical Dimensions*" is aimed at using Moody's principles for evaluating cognitive efficiency of a concept map.

The paper "*Teaching and Learning English at Grammar School supported by Mobile Touch Technologies*" describes the implementation of the iTunesU tool into English language instruction at a grammar school using Komenský's principles and Koole's FRAME model. The paper presents advantages and recommendations concerning the use of mobile touch screen devices in foreign language instruction.

The results of a study on digital skills of 532 students of the Faculty of Education of the University of Prešov are presented in the paper "*Pilot Testing of IT Skills of Preschool and Elementary Education Students by the IT Fitness Test*". The study used the 2015 IT Fitness Test to determine the level of digital skills in five domains (the Internet, safety and computer systems, collaboration tools and social networks, office tools, performing more difficult tasks).

We hope that the aforementioned papers have not only caught your attention, but will also inspire you in your future endeavors.

Tomas Javorcik
Executive Editor