

Editorial

Welcome to the 23-24 issue of Academia. This issue is a double issue. It includes a total of 11 articles. The acceptance rate for this issue is 10,9%).

The paper "*Socioeconomic profile and study choice. The case of university students in Greece*" is signed by Fotini Anastasiadou, Argyris Kiridis, Christos. D. Tourtouras, Christos Zagkos and Eleni Pechlivanos. The article proposes an analysis of the impact of social background on students' choices of study.

The second article also comes from Greece and is entitled "*Selecting Democracy Indicators for the modern University*". It is signed by Vaia Papanikolaou, Yannis Roussakis and Panagiotis Tzionas. Its subject is the application of indicators for measuring democracy in the university. Its aim is to establish a mechanism to monitor inconsistencies and defects that may undermine the democratic functioning of the university.

Marko Turk, from Croatia, is the author of the article "*Academics' Self-Assessment Regarding the Mastery of the Academic Profession Competencies*". The main objective of the paper is to explore the self-assessment of the research participants regarding the mastery of professional academic competencies at the beginning of their academic career.

Alias Masek, Affero Ismail, Suhaizal Hashim & Salsabella Mohd Fizol, from Malaysia, wrote a paper on defining active student participation and assessment of student learning through group discussion. The title is "*Defining students' active participation in a group discussion session from different perspectives*".

The five paper is titled *"Stress among University Staff. Is Working in Suburban Campus Better?"* signed by Razali Salmi, Nazali Mold Izwan Mat, Hashim Nurul Azreen & Nawawi Hapizah Mold. It discusses stress among university staff and the factors that influence it. This article also comes from Malaysia.

Malek Turki signs the paper *"A Multi-Group Moderating Effect of Work-Engagement of Job Demands-Stress Relations: the Case of the Saudi Arabia Lecturers"*. The author discusses the factors contributing to job stress of lecturers at a Saudi Arabia university.

The seventh article is signed by Tanin Tirasawasdichai and Korakot Pookayaporn and is entitled *"Direct and Indirect Effects of Virtual Reality Usage Toward Learning Performance Perception: a Case Study of Thai Undergraduate Students"*. The paper discusses virtual reality as a learning tool.

The remaining four texts are a selection of student papers from the Inter-University Interdepartmental Master's Degree Program "Higher Education Policy: theory and practice". The original texts were subsequently transformed into articles for publication with the guidance of the supervising professors.

The first text is signed by Hara Adamopoulou and is entitled *"Roma access to higher education according to the official texts of the Council of Europe"*. The paper explores the official texts of the Council of Europe on Roma access to higher education.

The second paper is by Syrma Theodoridou and is entitled *"The importance of student-centered learning in the development of critical thinking"*. The paper discusses student-centered learning as a mechanism for the development of critical thinking.

The third paper is entitled *"The European debate on the European Qualifications Framework. Basic principles and objectives. An initial assessment"*. The aim is to analyze the basic principles of the EQF and the state of its implementation.

Finally, the fourth paper, by Viviane Reissoglou-Minou, is entitled *"The Bologna Process in progress: working plans 1999-2005"*. The aim of the paper is to explore the ways in which the Process was organized and operated, the issues discussed during the first period of its formulation, and also to identify the protagonists and their roles.

Enjoy reading!

Georgios Stamelos

Editor