Editorial / Éditoiral

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Our summer issue has an eclectic collection of articles ranging from topics on providing insights of cultural competencies to the integration of ICTs in special education. As importantly, we are beginning to have a better balance of papers in both of Canada's official languages.

Our first article "Reading in the Digital Age: Using Electronic Books as a Teaching Tool for Beginning Readers" investigates the impact of e-books on grade one students. The results reveal there may be value of e-readers with respect to the motivation of grade one students.

The next article "Computer Applications in Counselor Education: Developing Cultural Competencies Through Online Collaboration of Future School Counselors" examined online student collaboration in a multicultural setting. The results of this study indicate that computer-mediated collaboration can, potentially, be a valuable component in developing multiculturalism in professional education.

Following this article is "Professional Learning in a Digital Age." This paper presents important aspects of models for technology-mediated professional learning. The authors conclude that the catalyst for transformative professional development may be in reimagining professional development as being in a networked age.

Our fourth article, "Perspectives on the Use of 'Partially Anonymous' Discussion Forums in Undergraduate Education Courses," explores the conflicts between participation in online environments versus real-world social commitments. Results of this investigation provide implications for evaluating forum submissions by students.

Our fifth paper looks at the integration of ICT and technological support by special-education teachers working with children with a handicap or learning disability. In particular, this paper describes the interest of ICT for students among Quebec special-education teachers. The results reveal that Quebec special education teacher feel more competent using ICT for personal reasons than for educational purposes.

The next paper describes the role of ICT in modernizing national languages to promote cultural diversity and the dissemination of scientific knowledge in local contexts. The project described in this paper will be used to further scientific knowledge and know-how.

Our final paper, "The 'Digital School Bag': A Technological Tool to Facilitate the Implementation of Curriculum Alignment" discusses the education-system reforms in Quebec which follow the same trends as reforms undertaken elsewhere in the world with various results. This paper introduces a technological tool and shows how it can help in reaching curriculum alignment, a key element for the success of educational reforms.