

Editorial Preface

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Dear Readers and Contributors,

I would like to present the first issue of fifth volume of the *International Journal of Quality Assurance in Engineering and Technology Education (IJQAETE)* with a rich and diverse scholarly contribution from our authors.

In the paper, *Defining Knowledge Constituents and Contents*, Spuzic et al. have presented important concepts and ambiguities associated with them. The article then proposes disambiguation of these concepts with the minimum intent to demonstrate how these key terms can be defined to avoid ambiguities, such as; pleonasm, homonymy, synonymy and circularity.

Learning assessment plays very important part in any educational accreditation mechanism. Bhatti and Ahmed, in their paper, *Design of Assessment Information System for Program Accreditation*, have presented a web-based system which was designed to support assessment and continuous improvement processes to meet the accreditation requirements of two professional accreditation bodies.

The paper, *Using Blended Learning Approach to Deliver Courses in an Engineering Programme*, by Moalosi et al., discusses the use of blended learning approach to deliver third year course for Mechanical Engineering students at the University of Botswana, Botswana. The paper presents survey results of 101 students conducted over a period of 3 years to evaluate teaching and learning preferences. Both students and facilitators are supportive of the blended learning approach due to its benefits and facilitators are encouraged to use blended learning and teaching approaches to promote active, independent and lifelong learning.

Yu, in the paper titled, *Experience Teaching Introductory Programming Courses*, has discussed the application of problem-based learning in undergraduate introductory programming course in Computer Science Department of Indiana University South Bend, USA. The paper further analyzes the challenges and experiences to deal with those challenges. Some philosophical issues related to teaching introductory courses are also discussed with adequate solutions.

I am sure that readers will enjoy this scholarly contribution from our authors.

I would like to appreciate kind support from our IJQAETE Editorial Board members and reviewers. The IGI Global Publishing Team including Journal Development Team has provided their consistent, quality and timely support for this issue and hence deserve special gratitude.

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Editor-in-Chief
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Arun Patil is currently Associate Professor in engineering management and education at Deakin University, Australia. He is Director of Postgraduate Coursework Studies and Chair of Deakin Engineering Education Research (DEER) in the School of Engineering at Deakin University. His previous positions include Deputy Dean (L&T) at CQUniversity, Research Scholar and Project Officer at Monash University, Australia. Arun has over 25 years of teaching, research and managerial experience in higher and further education. He holds a PhD, the Master of Engineering Science, both from Monash University, Australia and a Masters in Physics in the specialization of applied electronics from India. Arun has published widely, and his publications include edited books, book chapters, conference proceedings, refereed journals, conference papers. He is a Founder Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Quality Assurance in Engineering and Technology Education and an Associate Editor of the International Journal of Online Pedagogy and Course Design (IJOPCD). His recently published book, Engineering Education Quality Assurance: A Global Perspective is highly accepted and cited scholarly publication in engineering education community around the globe. Professor Patil has received the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Good Practices in Learning and Teaching (CQUniversity Australia, 2013) and a Silver Badge of Honour (Monash University, Australia, 2004) for his significant contribution to global engineering education. Arun has coordinated and organized several International Conferences in various parts of World and he is founder General Chair for the International Engineering and Technology Education Conference (IETEC) Series held since 2011. He is an active member of several professional organizations including, Engineers Australia (EA), European Society for Engineering Education (SEFI), World Association for Cooperative Education (WACE), The Australian Collaborative Education Network (ACEN) and The Australasian Association for Engineering Education (AAEE).