Guest Editorial Preface

Special Issue on Knowledge-Based Innovation and Assessment System (KBIAS)

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KBIAS is a relatively new paradigm of the millennia, as nations strive towards innovations in research; and the dissemination of knowledge-based systems to organisations and industries towards a smart nation. Literature on KB researches is across various disciplines and presently tending towards being inter-disciplinary as is evident in this special issue. The issues raised are assessed based on the objectives stipulated by testing, measuring and assigning values to their observed phenomena. This is a requisite especially in the knowledge-based society where apt interventions must be effective. Thus, this special issue is inter-disciplinary but draws research generally from the social sciences discipline and applies contemporary analyses and techniques. Such techniques, such as TRIZ, for instance look at some issues in the new lens. This special issue successfully achieves its goals in bringing scholars from academia, research laboratories, practitioners, and industries that are involved in KBO and its implementation by presenting their innovative knowledge-based studies to the fore for others.

This special issue publishes six papers after they have been carefully reviewed by professionals in their respective disciplines. The abstract of these papers were presented in the first ICRIL International Conference of Innovation in Science and Technology (IICIST 2015). These papers are listed as follows:

The first paper is titled "The Effects of Learning and Growth Perspective on Financial Performance in Private Universities" by Fahmi Fadhl Al-Hosaini and Saudah Sofian. In this paper, the authors present a positive and direct effect of Learning and Growth Perspective on the Financial Performance of the Yemen's Private Universities using a self-developed questionnaire based on Partial Least Square-Structural Equation Modelling. It strengthens the fact that non-financial measures enhance organizational Financial Performance.

Next, Salihuddin Md Suhadi, Hasnah Mohamed, Zaleha Abdullah, Norasykin Mohd Zaid, Baharuddin Aris and Mageswaran Sanmugam authored "Enhancing Student's Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS) through the Socratic Method Approach with Technology". The authors advocate the use of technology to construct new knowledge through Socratic Method of learning. It is hoped that this will improve student's level of thinking as promoted by Malaysia Education Blueprint (2013 – 2025). A combination of online learning and Socratic Method proves to accelerate and improve the existing Malaysian educational system.

The third paper by Mageswaran Sanmugam, Hasnah Mohamed, Norasykin Mohd Zaid, Zaleha Abdullah Baharuddin Aris and Salihuddin Md Suhadi is titled "Gamification's role as a Learning and Assessment Tool in Education". This paper deduces that the level of the student's motivation; and educational tendency and preparation needs to be identified before the creation of a gaming environment. The meta-analysis also foretells that gamification can contribute to improvement of cognitive, engagement and motivation aspects of learning. In addition, both formative and summative assessment forms can incorporate gaming elements.

The next paper titled "Approaches of TRIZ Application in Malaysian Academic and Industry" by Zulhasni Abdul Rahim and Nooh Abu Bakar is the sixth paper. It explores how TRIZ (The Theory of Inventive Problem Solving) is adopted as project throughout starting-up phase, initiation phase, managing phase and closing phase using the PRICE2 project management perspective. The results showed five key elements has basic prerequisites when adopting TRIZ.

Then, the next paper by Amirhossein Datsaviz is entitled "Integration of Competing Values and Knowledge Organisational Activities in a New Model" proposed a conceptual model that applies dominant competing values status and facilitates organisational activities of knowledge chain. It can enrich the knowledge activities literature, especially on knowledge organisational activities.

The last paper by Hadina Habil, Rohani Othman and Rohayah Kahar is entitled "Nursing as a Global Career: Meeting the Challenges of the Profession from a Language for Specific Purposes (LSP) Perspective" focused on the needs of English language communication skills at the workplace. These skills were written and spoken English communication, reading, listening, and interpersonal communication. By identifying these communicative competency needs. The study has given insights into helping the nurses to increase their work performance, meet their work demands and help the employability of the nurses globally.

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