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Welcome to IJE

Welcome to the Ilorin Journal of Education. The Ilorin Journal of Education (IJE) is a broad based scholarly, biannual publication of the Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria since 1978. It is a multi-disciplinary, peer-refereed open-access international journal that provides a platform for the publication of the most advanced research journal articles in all areas of education. The journal welcomes original empirical investigations as well as thoroughly researched expository essays in the field of education. The manuscripts acceptable to this journal are expected to reflect very sound knowledge cutting across any age, gender, and educational levels. Only manuscripts that showcase new knowledge and add something new to existing literatures are considered for publication in this journal. Articles in all disciplines of education are welcome. They include but are not limited to those on primary education; education guidance and counselling; educational policy; science, technology and mathematics education; educational technology, Arts education; social sciences education, physical and health education; educational administration; adult and non-formal education, open and distance education, special education etc. The main thrust of the review process is the significance of the contribution an article could add to the advancement of teaching and learning

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Editorial Comments

This publication is linked to the Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin 2024 Conference with the theme: Entrepreneurship for the 21st Century Teacher Education that held from 19th to 22nd August 2024.

The 21st century demands a paradigm shift in teacher education, necessitating the integration of entrepreneurial skills and mindsets. The theme of the Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin 2024 Conference, “Edupreneurship for the 21st Century Teacher Education” emphasises the need for the integration of entrepreneurial principles into teacher training programmes to prepare educators for the dynamic and evolving educational landscape. This conference, through practical hands-on workshop activities and plenary paper presentations and discussions, explores edupreneurship as a catalyst for innovative teaching practices, empowering educators to become problem-solvers, critical thinkers, and lifelong learners. This approach aims to foster creativity, adaptability, and an edupreneurship growth mindset, to equip teachers to navigate the complexities of modern education and create impactful learning experiences. The papers explore the sub-themes of the conference outlined below:

1. **Adult Education and Community Service Edupreneurship** explore the integration of entrepreneurial strategies into various educational contexts in Nigeria. They addressed the incorporation of non-formal education methods into formal school systems to foster effective edupreneurship. Together, these papers underscore the potential of edupreneurship to transform educational practices and contribute to broader societal goals.
2. **Counselling and Edupreneurship** explore the intersection of counselling services and entrepreneurial education, highlighting their combined impact on various aspects of personal and community development in Nigeria. These papers underscore the potential of integrating counselling and entrepreneurial education to enhance personal development, economic growth, and societal well-being.
3. **Developing 21st Century, Entrepreneurial Skills in Students and Teachers** explore various strategies and models for fostering entrepreneurial skills in educational settings. They explored the effectiveness of integrated curriculum models in enhancing graduate employability; overall, these studies underscore the importance of developing entrepreneurial skills in both students and teachers to enhance employability, innovation, and sustainable development in the 21st century.
4. **Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset in Education** assessed various strategies to instil entrepreneurial thinking in students and educators, emphasizing the importance of integrating entrepreneurial concepts into different educational contexts to foster innovation, resilience, and job creation. These papers highlight the significance of developing an entrepreneurial mindset in education to prepare students and educators for 21st-century challenges and opportunities.
5. **Early Childhood Edupreneurship** explore various aspects of integrating entrepreneurial concepts into early childhood and primary education. They provide a theoretical analysis of the impact of edupreneurship on early childhood education and examine the role of technology integration in fostering entrepreneurial practices. These studies highlight the potential of edupreneurship to enhance early childhood and primary education by integrating innovative practices, cultural arts, and caregiver involvement to foster entrepreneurial skills from a young age.

6. **EdTech and Innovation Edupreneurship** explore the convergence of educational technology (EdTech) and innovation-driven entrepreneurship in reshaping the educational landscape. Despite these opportunities, challenges persist, particularly in the areas of infrastructure, funding, and policy support, and the papers then address the challenges of EdTech and edupreneurship in Nigeria, emphasising the transformative potential of innovative technologies in driving educational transformation in Nigeria.
7. **STEMpreneurship** examined the integration of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education with entrepreneurship, as a powerful strategy for addressing unemployment, poverty, and education. The papers collectively explore the integration of STEM education with entrepreneurial skills, focusing on educational approaches and teacher roles in fostering STEMpreneurship, with a particular emphasis on the development of innovative learning platforms and the impact of STEM-based entrepreneurship on curriculum design and student outcomes.
8. **Entrepreneurial Teacher Education** looked into various aspects of integrating entrepreneurship into the education sector, particularly in Nigeria. They discuss the noble ideals in the teaching profession and how to transform the Nigerian education industry into a worthy enterprise. The papers examine the intersection of education and entrepreneurship, highlight the potential of entrepreneurship to transform the teaching profession, address challenges such as curriculum reform and the development of 21st-century skills, and contribute to a growing body of knowledge aimed at empowering teachers to become innovative and impactful leaders within their communities.
9. **Funding and Investment in Education Startups** explore various aspects of financial support and investment strategies to enhance educational entrepreneurship and outcomes. The papers collectively explore the challenges and potential of entrepreneurship within the Nigerian education sector, examining factors like teacher capacity, technology integration, and funding challenges, while highlighting the significance of entrepreneurship as a catalyst for educational development and underscoring the significance of diverse funding and investment strategies in promoting educational entrepreneurship and improving educational outcomes.
10. **Edupreneurship and Human Kinetics** explore the intersection of educational entrepreneurship and physical education, highlighting various factors that influence academic performance and entrepreneurial development. Furthermore, these papers emphasise the significance of exploring entrepreneurial mindsets among students, particularly in fields like human kinetics. The papers also underscore the influence of external factors, such as transportation and the digital landscape, on educational outcomes and entrepreneurial opportunities.
11. **Health Education and Edupreneurship** explore various aspects of health education and its entrepreneurial applications within Nigerian communities. These studies underscore the significance of health education in enhancing well-being, safety, and entrepreneurial opportunities within the healthcare sector.
12. **Entrepreneurial Language Learning** explore the critical role of language skills in fostering entrepreneurship and effective communication in the digital age. These papers underscore the significance of language education in developing entrepreneurial skills, enhancing communication, and addressing educational challenges in multilingual contexts.
13. **Training and Professional Development Edupreneurship** focus on various strategies to enhance entrepreneurial skills and professional development in educational contexts.

Overall, the papers underscore the significance of targeted training and professional development programmes in fostering entrepreneurial skills and enhancing employability in various educational and vocational contexts.

14. **Edupreneurship and Social Impact** explore how entrepreneurial approaches within the education sector can drive significant social changes and address pressing global issues. These papers underline the transformative power of edupreneurship in promoting social change, sustainable development, and gender equality.
15. **Humanities Entrepreneurship** examine the integration of entrepreneurial principles into various educational and societal contexts within Nigeria. These papers underscore the importance of integrating entrepreneurial approaches to tackle complex social problems and enhance educational systems within the humanities field.
16. **Policy and Advocacy for Educational Entrepreneurship** the papers under this sub-theme deal with the integration of entrepreneurial practices in educational settings and the role of policy and advocacy in fostering innovation. These studies underline the importance of policy and advocacy in promoting entrepreneurial approaches within the education sector to prepare students for future careers and foster a culture of innovation.
17. One paper explores the relationship between edupreneurship and quality assurance in teacher training, and another one focuses on how addressing challenges can create opportunities for special education edupreneurs.

This special issue feature and ninety-two (92) papers, which were found publishable after going through rigorous peer review system. Thus, contributors and readers are assured of thorough and efficient review process. The journal with its international outlook serves as valuable research resources in the teaching and learning process by providing readers with scientific knowledge through the well research articles in this edition. We are therefore, pleased to present this special edition of Ilorin Journal of Education (IJE) for your reading and knowledge acquisition.

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