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Dear Readers and Writers!

COMMENTS ON SOME POINTS TO BE REMEMBERED

A current issue of the journal discusses eight interesting and seminal articles which is definitely a very usual and entirely understandable matter. On the other hand, 10 is a special number of the magazine indicating a fairly hard but progressive way to have been followed. Intention of publishing a journal is very important. However, pushing the idea of promotion is though a different but crucial issue. In this case, the situation reminds of a baby requiring constant long-term care as this short five-year period is not lengthy enough to debate the entrenchment of the international journal in the academic society world-wide.

During a period of five years, 72 articles focusing on the topics covering general methodological as well as experimental or specific didactical questions have been published. Obviously, a broader and more accurate picture would have been revealed by thorough assessment of the subjects. It is expected that the proximate issues of the magazine will improve the situation. The spectrum of the authors becomes wider, and thus this is evidence showing that the popularity of the journal is growing. It must be stressed that not all received works have been published. During this time, the editorial board of the journal has collected more than one hundred and fifty different papers. Nevertheless, a number of those were qualified as not corresponding to the format of the journal or were insufficiently professionally prepared to be published. An initial idea of the magazine was to present the Baltic States i.e. to make the works, ideas and experience of the experts of this region internationally known. Yet, the editorial board has always supported the idea that the journal had to be opened to any potential author on no account that they were representatives of other countries or institutions. Lithuania as one of the Baltic Countries is placed in a unique geopolitical situation. We have always remained as a bridge between the East and the West. A very valid point is that the authors from Russia, Byelorussia and other countries of Eastern Europe have joined our magazine. Unfortunately, due to the various reasons, frequently the readers from the West fail to become acquainted with relevant and valuable experience gained by the countries of the East in the field of natural science education. For example, this issue publishes an article on child orientation in immediate natural and social environment and is done by Eleonora Melnik who is a professor at a State Pedagogic University in Karelia. The publication reveals an attitude of the Russian experts towards the interaction between nature and modern human being. Evidently, the questions facing the interaction between man and nature in ontogenesis are poorly examined due to lack of methodical information disclosing how to implement educational support in order to make corrections to negative and to form and strengthen positive interaction.

As it was mentioned above, the editorial board of the journal gets more and more different manuscripts to be published and supposes that the academic level of the journal should constantly increase. These are the major indicators proving the need for further publishing the magazine. Therefore, we are concentrating on bringing out the materials of high scientific quality. We are expecting that the future authors will be more focused on the quality of preparing papers for publications as well as will more intensively follow the requirements for the handled manuscripts imposed by the editorial board. A perfect manuscript makes our hard and fairly lengthy work more rewarding.

An assessment of the international situation discloses that research on the natural science education issues increasingly frequently becomes a field of the interests of the scientists from different countries. TIMSS, SAS, PISA, ROSE etc. and other important investigations show that the spectrum of problems is really broad and causes overriding concern (not only in academic society). Such fields as natural science education literacy, motivation for acquiring knowledge of natural sciences (nature study) and practical nature/environmental study activity, interaction with nature, integration of natural science-technological-social education, training of teachers dealing with natural sciences and diagnostics of training quality (on the basis of competencies), natural science background of primary school teachers, natural science education in pre-primary and primary educational establishments, usage of ICT in the process of natural science-technological education etc. are and will be the central problems requiring an effective solution. The main question that needs to be answered is about natural science and technological education in the 21st century. We believe that the scientists from different countries will help with finding answers to this burning issue by presenting their research papers for the reader.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the editorial board whose broad knowledge, support and inspiration have helped me very substantially with producing and publishing the journal. Since the very first issue of the magazine was published, the number of the people working for the magazine has increased and the number of the countries representing the journal has become larger. We hope that all the members of the editorial board will be active in producing and assisting the journal in the future.

Sincerely yours

Vincentas Lamanuskas,
Editor-in-Chief of JBSE

