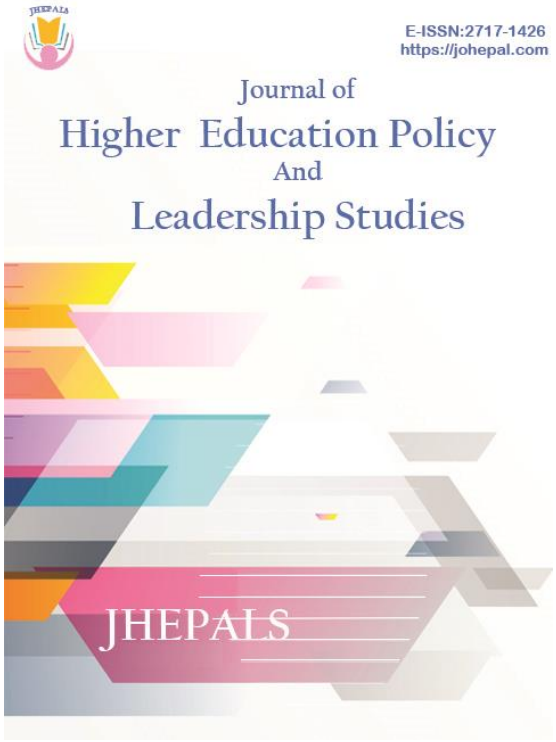
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Editorial Note

Volume: 1/ Issue: 3

Abbas Abbaspour (Ph.D.)
Email: abbaspour@atu.ac.ir

Ali Khorsandi Taskoh (Ph.D.)
Email: ali.khorsandi@atu.ac.ir

Editors-in-Chief

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Editorial Note

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Journal of Higher Education Policy And Leadership Studies (JHEPALS) aims to foster novel ideas within the realm of Higher Education based on its eleven pivotal Aims and Scope.

We experienced a new life in lockdown throughout the world. 2020 might be a historical year throughout the centuries which shows a new challenging horizon in front of the world. Almost all countries are still in shock due to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases and deaths. Our friends, members of families, colleagues at the schools and universities, and the public are suffering from such heartbreaking COVID-19 outbreak. In this regard, governments and policy-makers have constant debates and sessions to successfully confront with the COVID-19 challenges and crises. So, 2020 was more like a DREAM than reality. We experienced lockdowns in almost all sectors of the countries; and Higher Education was not an exception. We witnessed different challenges and crises which, for sure, will be a commencement of revisions and modifications in the universities' policies, goals, missions, and mottos to meet these challenges and crises.

However, we owe JHEPALS thriving year (2020) to our esteemed authors, members of the editorial board, and international reviewers who helped us improve the quality of the research we publish in JHEPALS. As a newly launched journal, we believe it is pivotal to stick to the highest standards of academic publishing. It means our editorial team try to select the research which meets the maximum criteria in terms of novelty, research rigorous, academic ethics, and content writing.

In this regard, we avoided hasty publishing as it is the optimum goal of JHEPALS to achieve its broad audience by our commitment to the standards of academic publishing. In this regard, our first volume (2020) is comprised of three issues (June; September; December).

Hopefully, globally recognized scholars submitted their novel innovative works to our December issue; however, as we had to be selective in terms of the content that we publish; JHEPALS editorial team selected 4 research after different editorial/ external referee processes out of 8 manuscripts received from researchers for our December issue.

Researchers also submitted four research as “Reflection” to JHEPALS which finally two are selected after editorial screening by the editors-in-chief and two members of the editorial board whose main areas of practice are related to such a kind of writing practice.

The concepts of leadership, change, and organizational culture are still of interest globally and numerous research proposals are in progress as theses/ dissertations or as the national funded projects at the state level in different countries. It might be even more challenging when digitalization exerts its facilitative / debilitative power on all sectors of our life; and the leadership

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culture at the organization is also no exception. Ulf-Daniel Ehlers in his research "Digital Leadership in Higher Education" proposes a framework for leading the digitalization in an HE context as he engages readers' mind with a question that "it is unclear whether we talk about the concepts of "digital leadership" or rather those of "leadership in the digital age".

Katharine Jewitt in her work "Connecting Students with Customized Technology Solutions: Embedding Partnership in a Digital Learning Strategy" brings in the theme of who are we and what do we want to be supporting the theme of self-actualisation. She also describes an approach in how to develop a digital strategy in partnership with students.

In the third article "Unhinging the Machismo Binary through a Third Space Lens: Reframing Latinx Males Postsecondary Academic Decision-Making", Matthew A. Witenstein and Alejandro Cervantes talk about "a third space to lay a foundation to understand past, present and future self" which also echoes self reflection. Further, they also discuss the use of diverse real life experience from different cultural socioeconomic backgrounds to empower students' confidence and give them a voice.

Christine Challen in her extensive deep reflective review of literature "The Importance of Art/Poetry and Philosophy in Educational Leadership, Well-being and Engagement of STEM Subjects" shows how important this is in enhancing a holistic and subjective journey. Such is the key to being, becoming and thriving and finding out who am I.

JHEPALS editorial team were much fortunate also to receive inspiring reflections from four globally recognized scholars within the realm of Higher Education. These reflections are enriched with extensive research expertise and wealth of knowledge; hence, our members of editorial team are convinced to provide space to share two following reflections as they are really inspiring, innovative, and full of ideas for students and other members of Higher Education:

Stephanie Chitpin in her reflection "My Professional Life in Higher Education: The Journey of Teaching and Leading" presents a portrayal of her professional development as a student, teacher, researcher, and leader. We need much more such reflections from outstanding scholars as it helps students as well as newly joined members of the universities to learn true roads to success in their professional life.

In the next reflection "Academic Reflections in Times of Crisis: Ten Fading Images of a Fatal Summer", Anatoly Oleksiyenko discusses how using life's histories and experiences can impact on the future and how COVID might impact on this.

Since our 2nd issue, we have an exclusive interview with one globally renowned HE scholar and leader. We believe one important road to success in almost all eras is through learning from experience. We need to provide our students, HE practitioners, as well as governments' policy-makers with knowledge and wisdom. We MUST acknowledge the expertise, knowledge, and thinking of our HE leaders; in this regard, we have the honor and privilege to talk with Prof. William F. Massy with numerous leadership expertise and experience in HE (for instance, *Vice Provost for Research, Acting Provost, and Vice President for Business and Finance at the University of Stanford*).

In our interview "New Resource Allocation Methods for the Post-COVID World", William Massy illuminates the challenges HE leaders might experience specifically in terms of resource allocation. It

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is even much timely as the main core of the questions and responses are maneuvering over the challenges of universities and HE Institutions in COVID-19 era.

We also publish book review since our 2nd issue. Hopefully, we received Emily Rochette's review of "Analysing Talk in Educational Research" by Susan Rodrigues which provides great ideas and research methodology clues specifically for our graduate students and novice researchers who might be new to talk analysis as a research methodology. In this regard, this book would make an excellent addition to a reading list for postgraduate subjects in research methodology.

We at JHEPALS believe in the eloquent words of Maxine Greene "*Without the ability to think about yourself, to reflect on your life, there's really no awareness, no consciousness. Consciousness doesn't come automatically; it comes through being alive, awake, curious, and often furious*".

In fact, our education should truly enable this process and allow personal growth to continually support and enhance academic achievement. It is also one of the main missions and goals that we hope to achieve by collaboration with Higher Education researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, and leaders. We hope to prepare a channel to share the unheard voices, to hear HE marginalized members' views as well as opinions, and help almost all HE stakeholders and shareholders make the right decisions and choices in different levels of management and leadership in Higher Education.

Please stay safe and healthy during COVID-19 quarantine!

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