# JOURNAL OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia

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## Introduction

The Journal of Technical Education and Training is a biannual, blind peer reviewed journal supported by a group of esteemed international editorial committee. It is a multidisciplinary journal that publishes articles on the various aspects of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET), covering a wide range of areas in both formal and informal sectors of TVET practices from around the world. Articles that are considered for publications include research articles as well as analytical essays.

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# **Message from the Chief Editor**

Welcome to the June 2012 issue of JTET. In this issue, we present to our readers selected articles on some of the most pressing issues in TVET such as curriculum design, teaching and learning and quality improvement. Eight articles from New Zealand, Indonesia and Malaysia have been selected for this June issue. The first article by Marshall and Wilson from New Zealand shares with readers on how a flexible student-centered curriculum can best be designed through considerations of students' and teachers' learning needs. Continuing in the student-centred learning spirit, the second article by Wan Nasaruddin Saifudin, Salam and Lim Abdullah discusses a framework and methodology for developing effective multimedia learning content for mobile-learning applications.

Promoting learning transfer is definitely one of the aims of vocational training and to promote transfer the right pedagogy is imperative. Thus the third article by Mohamad, Yee, Tee and Rajuddin highlights the importance of vocational pedagogy in ensuring successful transition from the training institution to the work-place. Apart from cognitive development, affective development is also an important focus of education and independence in knowledge acquisition is one of them. Independence in learning can be developed through the appropriate training. In the fourth article, Hamzaid, Md Saaid, Mansor and Hamid looks at how engineering students in a management course develop independent learning skills through problem based learning activities.

In the fifth article, Ida Hamidah from Indonesia shares with readers how an interactive multimedia application that can be self-paced for more learning independence is being used for improving students' conceptual comprehension on heat transfer. In the sixth article, another example of how PBL is being used to promote learning is discussed. This article by Anthony and Abdul Kadir shares with readers how the use of PBL in language learning helps to promote students who are more responsible for their learning needs. In the seventh article, Zahar and Kamaluddin shares with readers how understandings on image-text relations are being improved among visual communications students through specially designed image-text instructional materials. Finally, in the last article, the issue of quality improvement is being discussed by Ahmad Bareduan, Baba, Md Ali and Ponniran who also highlight the use of constructive alignment for the purpose of continuous quality improvement of engineering programmes. With these selections I sincerely hope that everyone has something to gain from this issue and thank you to article contributors and reviewers for making this issue possible.

Professor Dr. Maizam Alias