
Editorial Welcome

This is the second issue in volume two of our Journal of Online Higher Education (JOHE). In this issue we can announce we have been accepted into the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). The DOAJ is an independent non-profit organization that oversees and assists academic publications in pursuit of open access to knowledge. You can find more about the DOAJ at doaj.org. The organization is committed to ensuring the highest academic standards, integrity of work, open access to scholarly work and transparency in peer-reviewed publications. The JOHE was subject to a complete review by an assigned DOAJ evaluator. The review recommended three minor changes which we were able to comply with quickly. The reviewer's recommendation was for the DOAJ Advisory Board to accept JOHE. We are now listed in the DOAJ database. This honor is the result of the hard work of our systems administrator Jeff Jensen (IU Lead Librarian) and our editorial board. I am delighted to be part of this success.

In this issue we once again continue with our recognition of IU Master's students. The three winners of the Distinguished Master's Thesis were recognized at graduation and are published in this issue. In the School of Business, the winner was Christopher Agens for his thesis: Implementation of Three-Dimensional Mammography. The School of Healthcare winner was Richard Wiltse for his thesis: Preoperative Patient Preparation. The School of Technology winner was Sam Haney for his thesis on: ACME Storage Area Network Solution. Please take a moment to read these amazing works. The awards reflect the hard work of the student and most importantly, the hard work of faculty to produce graduates that are going forth and changing the world!

In this issue, there is also a journey by one faculty to come to terms with technology. The article reflects the challenges and successes both faculty and students experience with our swiftly changing world. Additionally, a fine article has been written that discusses course design. The discussion includes the importance of course design on successful student outcomes. This topic is something every faculty and staff in higher education must consider. I have also had the privilege of seeing some of the articles being submitted for future issues. JOHE has a very bright future.

This year JOHE is undertaking a special project. We have dedicated the Fall Issue or Volume 2 Issue 3 to a theme. Articles based on topics presented by Bridgett McGowen in faculty trainings will be accepted for the fall issue. All JOHE guidelines and requirements must be followed. The articles accepted for the theme and published will be part of a random drawing for a \$100.00 gift card. We are already beginning to see articles submitted for this special issue. The September 15th deadline will close acceptance of eligible submissions. The articles must address one of the following topics: Attendance in Online Live Sessions; Increasing Student Engagement in the Online Environment; or Addressing the Needs of At-Risk Students. This is an exciting new part of JOHE that we hope to continue in future volumes. Look for emails providing more explanation.

JOHE continues to be dedicated to the best in learning and understanding the needs of students in the online environment. Our publication reflects a desire to lead the world through education and the highest academic standards. I encourage each of you to consider writing an article for JOHE. We are always excited to see new ideas, expansion of current thought and passion for teaching and learning.

Congratulations to everyone who works so hard to make this Journal possible. We have accomplished something wonderful. I personally thank each and every one of you for all you do for our students, this University and for academia.

Yours in excellence in higher education,

Dr. Carmen Herbel Spears

Editor in Chief