BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

ERI-20

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

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Raising Linguistic Awareness through Metalinguistic Written Corrective Feedback

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ABSTRACT

Grammar has traditionally been taught for its own sake, emphasizing rules and drills. However, in recent years, more emphasis is given to communicative competence. Current research suggests that form-focused instruction is notably efficient when incorporated in a meaningful communicative context. It is maintained that writing tasks related to the students academic fields will encourage them to express themselves openly in topics that are close to their hearts, without feeling too uneasy about grammatical forms. The teacher can further reduce students apprehension of grammar by announcing that credit will be given for merely doing the task and that grammar mistakes will not affect the grade. Students linguistic errors can then be corrected by giving metalinguistic feedback which involves providing learners with some kind of explicit remark about the nature of the errors they have made. Research has also shown that the learners developmental readiness is an important factor influencing the effectiveness of written corrective feedback. Larger effect sizes appear as the proficiency level is higher. The purposes of this presentation are to demonstrate how grammar can be taught indirectly through writing tasks, and more specifically, how the use of metalinguistic written corrective feedback given to advanced EFL students can raise their linguistic awareness and lead to foreign language improvement.

KEYWORDS
EFL, linguistic awareness, metalinguistic corrective feedback, teaching grammar through writing.

Knowledge internalization as a measure of results for organisational knowledge transfer: a public health institution case

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ABSTRACT

In the last two decades, knowledge transfer has been one of the most strategic processes for organisations, either because of its direct relationship with innovation or its decisive role in improving organisational performance. From the literature review on transference results, it was clear, on the one hand, a relative advance in the field and, on the other, the few studies on the knowledge internalization from the transfer. This paper aims to investigate the role of the absorptive capacity of the recipient and the disseminative capacity of the source in the internalization of quality practices by organisations. To this end, we conducted a longitudinal case study of a qualitative nature, involving the collection of data and information over nine years (20082016), taking as our case one of the most important public health, science, and technology institutions in Brazil, the four directors of this foundation being the unit of analysis. The results show that the greater disseminative capacity (DC) of the source contributes not only to the greater appropriation of knowledge but also to the reduction of the time taken for knowledge internalization. The absorptive capacity (AC) contributes to a greater appropriation of knowledge and reduction of the time taken for knowledge internalization by the recipient. From the theoretical perspective, we provide a deeper understanding of the knowledge internalization as a multidimensional variable, considering the appropriation of external knowledge by the receiver, and the process of the timing of maturation as an extension of knowledge internalization in the organisational routine. Moreover, we formulate a theoretical model with four propositions that can be empirically tested in other studies. From an empirical perspective, understanding the role senders disseminative capacity and receivers absorptive capacity can offer contributions to organisations achieve more agile and lasting results through the knowledge transfer process.

KEYWORDS
Knowledge transfer, knowledge internalization, absorptive capacity, disseminative capacity.

Stability and Trajectory of Public Debt in Croatia

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ABSTRACT

Croatia is one of the EU countries with the highest level of public debt. The main reason for such fiscal stance can be found in the extensive deficit financing, especially during recent economic crisis which lasted for six consecutive years (2009-14). Paper analyses public debt sustainability in Croatia and its effects on fiscal policy efficiency. To point out key challenges of fiscal sustainability, the public debt sustainability is analyzed using standard indicators of fiscal stability, accompanied with identification of regime changes approach in the public debt trajectory. Last quarter of 2008 can be seen as a (negative) turning point in the Croatian economy and dynamics of the economic and fiscal system were substantially changed. To formally test this assumption and to see whether the regime changes have an effect on the effectiveness of fiscal policy, a regime-switching regression approach is used. Analysis is conducted for the period from 2001 to 2018 using quarterly data. Results show huge vulnerability in recession period (2009-14), so key challenges in current fiscal policy and public debt management are recognized in maturity prolongation, interest rates trends, and credit ratings expectations. Regime-switching model recognizes two regimes, coinciding with the change in the mean of the dependent variable between 2001-2008 and 2009-2018. In the first regime the debt indicator had a negative and statistically significant effect on the growth figure. In the second regime the change in debt ratio remained statistically significant but its negative effect strengthened with the rise of instability. Paper suggests that despite the fact that the fiscal spending effectiveness rises in recessions, related increase of the debt unsustainability mitigates the effects of anti-cyclical fiscal policy.

KEYWORDS

Monitoring and Evaluating of Excellence Scholarship Program Performance among Thai Scholars in Public Sector

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ABSTRACT

The purposes of this study were to monitoring and evaluation of excellence scholarship program performance in humanities and social sciences of Thailand. The collected data from opinions and behaviors related to the program questionnaires consists of 114 items with Cronbachs alpha reliability between .956-.996. The CIPP model design conducted by cross sectional survey with 208 scholars in public sector who were Thai government scholarship recipients during fiscal year of 2007-2018. The findings shown 1) Scholarship recipients ability to accomplish goals were 605 scholarship recipients from total of 1,160 which can quantify with descriptive statistics at 52.16%, from fiscal year of 2007-2014. 2) Factors related to program outcome and impact found the significant relationship between program context, input, process, and outcome with high correlation coefficient (r) at .579, .522, .459 and .779 respectively. 3) Suggestion for increasing program performance: 3.1) Budget dimension includes allocate funds relevance to current cost of living in each countries. 3.2) Time dimension includes estimate time relevance to study timetable in each country. 3.3) Network dimension includes sharing experience between current students and alumni of the program. 3.4) Affiliated universities dimension includes continuous monitoring and following up with scholarship recipients.3.5) Scholarship recipients dimension includes provide psychiatrists for counseling. 3.6) National policies dimension includes short-term and long-term planning for national development. 3.7) Post graduate work dimension includes notify job description responsibilities and expectation. In addition, the leftover budget should utilize for program extension and funding allocation for research, training and career development of scholarship recipients after graduation.

KEYWORDS

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Automated Measuring Estrogen Receptor Status In Breast Cancer Microscopic Images Using Cell-Based Neighbor Information

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ABSTRACT

The evaluation of estrogen receptor status is widely used in breast cancer microscopic images acquired from the immunohistochemically staining to support and plan for the medical treatment. Computer-aided systems have been developed to replace the subjective, time-consuming and tedious image assessments by human experts. In this study, we propose and evaluate approaches for scoring the estrogen receptor status in segmented areas, instead of counting the segmented cells. The study had two stages, namely the selection of a classification model and the development of a computer-aided system. In the first stage, two experiments were performed on image datasets: 1) comparison between single decision tree classifier, bagging, and boosting with each window size using fractal dimension based color layers, and 2) texture features based on color layers, correlation based feature selection, and classifier selection. These were tested for classifying the breast cancer microscopic images dataset into two groups (cancer and non-cancer image) and to three groups (non-cancer, positive cells and negative cells). In the second stage, the best classification performance would be applied in a computer-aided system using cell based neighbor information, tested on 40 images and compared to labeling by the expert assessment. The best classification performance was obtained by selecting features and using a neural network classifier. The results from applying the cell based neighbor information method on the images compared to the expert assessment showed the moderate correlation with the expert labeling in terms of accuracy and kappa correlation. However, the Spearmans and Pearsons correlations appeared nearly perfect in the results of estrogen receptor evaluation. The best agreement was in the classification of the images into 3 groups. The paper shows that the proposed system can complement and support the experts, as opposed to being a stand-alone system, and this way the standardization of estrogen receptor evaluation can be approached gradually.

KEYWORDS
Computer-aided system, Estrogen receptor, Fractal dimension, Image analysis, Texture analysis.

Incident Reporting Behaviors Among Health Care Workers A Cross Sectional Study

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Adverse events, near misses and errors continue to occur in hospitals several years after the landmark report To Err is human which put the spotlight on the high incidence of medical errors was published in 1999. According to a study of Medicare patients completed by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) in 2010, 13.5% of patients experience harm while hospitalized, and about half of those events can be prevented. Voluntary adverse event reporting has been shown to be a good strategy to detect safety events, quality problems and devise ways to prevent such events from recurring, but six out of seven adverse events in hospitals still go unreported.

OBJECTIVE: The aim of the study is to assess awareness of adverse events, use of the current incident reporting system and identify factors inhibiting reporting of incidents among health care workers in Waterbury hospital, Connecticut, USA.

METHODS: A cross sectional study was conducted in April to May 2019 at Waterbury hospital - a teaching hospital for the Yale Waterbury Internal medicine residency program and also surgical residency. Simple random sampling was used to select the participants. A questionnaire based on 13 questions related to specialty, duration of employment, knowledge, attitude and barriers to adverse event reporting was distributed randomly to 73 healthcare workers. The study subjects included attending physicians, nurses, medical and surgical resident doctors. Data were coded and analyzed with the jmp software.

RESULTS: The workers surveyed do not appear to be engaging in the incident reporting. 70% of those surveyed have never filed a report, although 85% of them have witnessed an incident that should be reported. Nurses are more aware, know how to access the system and report more incidents when compared to doctors. Most (72%) of the respondents would report obvious errors that caused harm to the patients and also those that could have caused harm (near misses). It is interesting to note that less than 50% of residents feel that falls should be reported. Another interesting finding is that less than 50% of the respondents believe that hospital acquired infections should be reported. Major barrier to incident reporting from the survey is that it takes too long and the lack of feedback. Conclusion: The incident reporting process is one that is still not embraced by many health care workers despite its benefits in helping to reduce adverse events in the hospital. From this study, simplifying the process, making it less time consuming, providing feedback and training are some of the ways to improve reporting.

KEYWORDS