
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Ravinder Rena earned his PhD from the Department of Economics, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India, with an achievement of University Gold Medal. All in all, he has earned six degrees. He has worked in Eritrea for more than a decade. He wrote nine books and published over 170 papers. He has to his credit more than 70 publications in refereed journals of national and international repute. He has widely written in the areas of economics of education, globalisation, development aid and food security strategies. He is an Editor-in-Chief for *International Journal of Education Economics and Development (IJEED)*. He is on the Editorial Board for several professional journals. He is currently working as the Head of Economics, Department of Business Studies, PNG University of Technology.

Mak Arvin is a Professor of Economics at Trent University. He has published over 100 papers and reviews in journals as well as several books on a wide variety of topics. He is a member of the Editorial Board of eight professional journals. His research focuses on applied microeconomic theory and development economics, especially the economics of foreign aid.

The international community has come to expect much of education in the past. Education is essential to promoting better living conditions in less developed parts of the world; rich countries too need education for their further development and economic growth. At a more micro level, education, both quantitatively and qualitatively, influences individuals' lives, including their economic prosperity. It also helps shape different dimensions of the society, including the level of gender inequality. However, financing education carries an opportunity cost and there are always constraints in achieving the first best outcome.

International Journal of Education Economics and Development (IJEED) is a new peer reviewed journal dedicated to the advancement of the economics of education and its connection to development. The journal uses a broad definition of development encompassing development at both micro and macro levels, and entertains many domains

including the costs and finances of education at all levels. A primary mission of *IJEED* is to serve as a medium for initiating, collaborating, analysing, synthesising and evaluating original and ground-breaking contributions to the theory, practice and research in education economics applicable to primary, secondary and higher education – from a development perspective. Therefore, as such, contributions from other disciplines (sociology, psychology, political science and management science) are welcome as long as the connection to education and development is made clear.

This is the first issue of the journal. It reflects the diversity and the vibrancy of ‘education and development’ as a field. The issue contains papers on a wide range of topics including the role of education and training on economic growth in Botswana; exploration of gender inequality and discrimination in secondary and higher education in Eritrea; analysis of private higher education in India; examination of the new pay structure for faculty at universities in UK – designed to reward experience and knowledge; discussion of the inequality of opportunity to participate in higher education in Thailand; and the impact of information and communication technology on consumers in Calabar, Nigeria.

We are honoured to have been chosen as the first Associate Editor and Chief Editor of the new journal. We have assembled an outstanding board of editors, whose names appear inside this issue. We aim to handle the papers submitted to *IJEED* in an efficient manner, with quick turnarounds and few rounds of review before acceptance. In addition to original articles, *IJEED* will periodically publish book reviews, technical reports and comments and review articles. Shorter papers with a special focus are also welcome. We invite your readership and your quality submissions.