



# OE e-bulletin

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## ACADEMICS CAME TOGETHER IN THE RESEARCH EVENT OF OPEN EDUCATION FACULTY

■ Res. Asst. Gözde YILMAZDOĞAN

Anadolu University Open Education Faculty held a Research Event on December 7, 2015. The projects and academic works of academics in the Faculties of Open Education, Economics and Business Administration were presented on posters in the event. Prof. Dr. Naci Gündoğan, Anadolu University Rector, Prof. Dr. Yücel Güney, Vice Rector for Open Education and Dean of Open Education Faculty, Prof. Dr. Ali Savaş Kopardal, Vice Rector for Research, Prof. Dr. Adnan Özcan, Vice Rector for Education and International Affairs, Vice Deans of Open Education Faculty, Group Coordinators and many academic staff members from different faculties participated in the Research Event.

### “Research events to continue”

Making the opening speech, Prof. Dr. Yücel Güney, Vice Rector for Open Education and Dean of Open Education Faculty, stated that he was proud of the projects and publications produced in the Faculties of Open Education, Economics and Business Administration, and that he would do his best to support projects and publications. Prof. Dr. Güney added that more research events would be held in the future.



Prof. Dr. Naci Gündoğan, Anadolu University Rector

### “Open Education System to be known for its projects and patents”

Delivering a short speech in the event, Prof Dr. Naci Gündoğan, Anadolu University Rector, said that the Open Education Faculty had so far held successful exams and organizations, and that the faculty would also be recognized for research with the use of data pool. Mentioning the significant endeavors of Prof. Dr. Yücel Güney and Prof. Dr. Ali Savaş Koparal, “we adopted a directive to set the conditions and infrastructure for making use of the information pool in the Open Education System. We should be talking about research, results and patents of the Open Education System in coming months. I believe this will be achieved. Our colleagues, particularly young colleagues are working devotedly,” Prof. Dr. Gündoğan added.

After welcome speeches, the participants examined the posters of researchers. The event presented the posters of 18 studies carried out by academics in the Faculties of Open Education, Economics and Business Administration, as well as the posters of e-learning materials already used and recently developed by the R&D Department for Learning Technologies (RDDLT). Among the e-learning materials introduced in the event were QR code, e-course, practice tests, chapter animations, audiobook, Mobile Anadolu application, MentalZ and beta e-Learning Portal.



Prof. Dr. Yücel Güney, Vice Rector for Open Education and Dean of Open Education Faculty  
Prof. Dr. Ali Savaş Koparal, Vice Rector for Research



Posters



Prof. Dr. Naci Gündoğan (Anadolu University Rector) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Köksal Büyük (Head of RDDLT and OEF Group Coordinator) with RDDLT staff

## NEW e-LEARNING MATERIALS PRODUCED BY THE R&D DEPARTMENT FOR LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

■ Asst. Prof. Dr. Didem PAŞAOĞLU

The Research and Development Department for Learning Technologies (RDDLT) is a unit in the Open Education Faculty of Anadolu University. The Department of Computer-Assisted Education, established in 1989, was renamed as the Research and Development Department for Learning Technologies in 2014. The department has developed software for the Open Education System since 1993, and is engaged in the design and preparation of various ma-

terials related to interactive e-books, e-seminars, e-learning portal, audiobooks, e-certificate programs and mobile applications. Assoc. Prof. Köksal Büyük, the OEF Group Coordinator responsible for the RDDLT, states that e-Learning system will be restructured in a way to diversify e-Learning environments and accelerate content development and revision processes according to students' needs and expectations. We interviewed him about ongoing and new projects in the RDDLT.

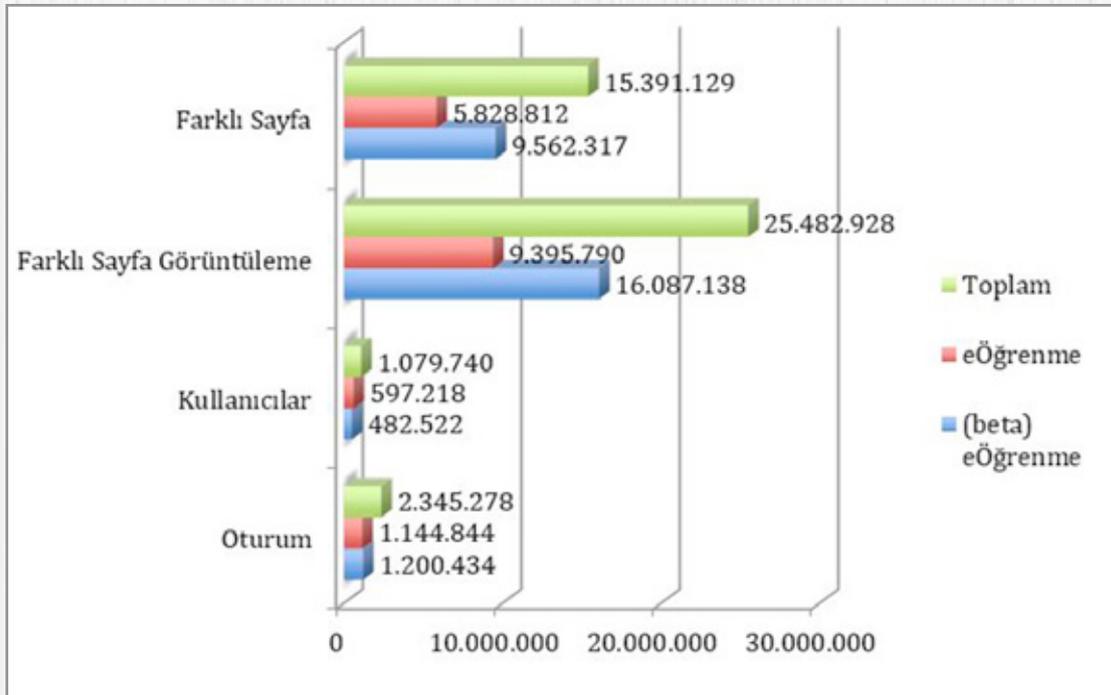


Figure. Data related to e-Learning pages

### BETA e-LEARNING PORTAL

New course materials have now been added to the e-Learning portal, where course books (e-Book in PDF format), practice tests (online), exercises (online), audiobooks (human voice and robotic-mechanic voice), e-Seminars, interactive e-Books, lecture videos, past exam questions and TRT Okul videos have been available since 1999. The beta e-Learning portal, whose software was completely renewed in 35 days, was opened on December 1, 2015 and has been visited 482 thousand times in 15 days. The beta e-Learning portal offers some new course materials to students, including chapter summaries, summaries in audio format, practice tests (in PDF format), practice tests at the end of chapters (in PDF), 1question1answer videos, animation and improvised lecturing, use of QR codes and audiobooks (in Daisy format). Various technologies have been used for the development of beta e-Learning portal, i.e. Virtual Studio, ASP.net MVC, SQL Server, jQuery, Bootstrap, git, JIRA, Stash and Bambo. The Center for Computer Research provided training and support during the project development process.



#### 1. Chapter Summary

Chapter summaries are one of the new support materials added to the e-Learning portal in order to increase the diversity of materials. Summaries – minimum two and maximum four pages – are available in PDF format. Students can download summaries to their device or print them. According to statistics from late December 2015, the summaries of 1889 chapters in 259 courses are available.

#### 2. Summary in Audio Format

Summaries are also available in audio format. Students can access audio summaries from their PC or mobile device. Audio summaries are course materials in a downloadable format and accessible to students anywhere and anytime. There are audio summaries of 716 chapters in the system.



#### 3. Practice Test (in PDF format)

These multiple-choice tests are prepared for each chapter to help students reinforce their learning. Tests in PDF format are printable and downloadable to PC or mobile device. Figures obtained at the end of December 2015 show that 587 files for 172 courses have been posted so far.

#### 4. Practice Test

A practice test consists of 20 multiple-choice questions that allow students to test their knowledge before an exam. Practice tests are available in two forms: e-Practice Tests and printable practice tests in PDF format. According to statistics from late December 2015, Midterm Practice Tests for 237 courses are available.





### 5. OneQuestionOneAnswer Project

In this project launched with the catchword of One Question OneAnswer, faculty members specialized in the given field prepare 2-4 minute videos to explain a subject based on a question in e-Seminar studios, making use of interactive monitors and content design software. These videos are available at <http://1s1c.anadolu.edu.tr>.

1Q1A project introduced in October 2015 has so far been accessed by over 88.600 unique visitors and a total of 798.456 visitors.

### 6. Improvised Lecturing and Chapter Animations

This component covers animations based on improvised lecturing, chapter summaries and examples from life. In animations based on lectures, voice and image recorded during improvised lecturing are edited to produce animations. In animations based on summaries, a brief summary of chapter available in audio format is combined with visuals to create an animation. Furthermore, scripts based on cases in daily life or business life are written and animated.



### 7. Use of QR Code in the Open Education System

QR codes have now been used in print materials of the Open Education System. QR codes link print materials to related e-Learning resources. QR codes are first used in the textbook “Temel Bilgi Teknolojileri I/Introduction to Information Technology I”, taking users directly to various e-learning materials related to subjects in the book. Contents such as 1question1answer entries, lectures, YouTube videos and web links are accessible from students’ mobile devices through QR codes.

### 8. e-Seminar (Evening Classes)

e-Seminar project provides students with the opportunity to access video, audio and synchronous counselling and lecturing services. In this system, students listen to lectures and ask questions synchronously and get live answers to their questions. Question and answer sessions are held before exams through e-Seminar services. All sessions are recorded and posted at e-Learning portal on a weekly basis for students that are unable to attend synchronous classes. In the fall semester of 2015-2016 academic year, 163 hours of classes have been offered per week through e-Seminar service. e-Seminar evening classes are offered for the first time in this semester. Students have access to live lectures or records of 37 hours of evening classes per week.





### 9. e-Course

The preparation of e-Course materials is the process of converting summaries of chapters in textbooks into audiovisual and interactive presentations. Articulate software was used by the RDDLT to design an interface, which brings together audiovisual and interactive components and presents them to open education students as electronic course materials. A StoryBoard template prepared by the RDDLT will help course instructors to develop materials. StoryBoard covers visual components required to transform a chapter into an interactive course material, as well as various instructions.

### 10. Audiobooks

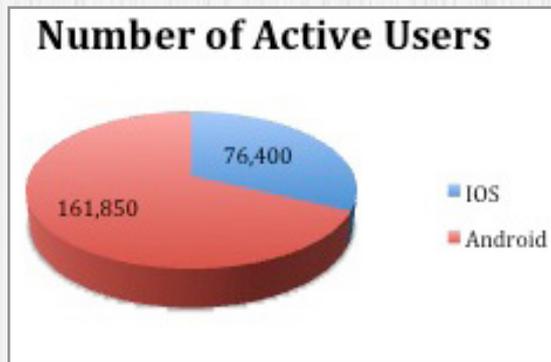
The audiobooks in the Open Education System are one of the learning products that allow visually impaired students as well as others to study by listening. The audio version of some books in the system are produced in the TV Production Center Laboratories while computer software is used to build some audiobooks. Considering students' demand for the productions of audiobooks with human voice, the Dean's Office has launched an audiobook project.

The audiobooks are produced in daisy format, which allows moving back and forth between pages and titles within a book. The audiobooks of 17 courses are currently available, and the production and control process of 161 audiobooks has been completed.



## MOBILE ANADOLU

The application is available for Android devices. The number of simultaneous users is about 700 for the application. The use of e-Learning materials have increased twenty fold in the last one month. e-Seminar calendar was added to Mobile Anadolu. Students have the opportunity to participate in live seminars and access the records of previous seminars. 1Question1Answer and QR code are also available in this application.



Anadolu Mobile Statistics



## AN EU-FUNDED PROJECT ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF ONLINE ASSESSMENT PROCESSES: TESLA

■ Asst. Prof. Dr. Nilgün ÖZDAMAR KESKİN



Anadolu University Open Education Faculty has raised the bar for projects. Faculty members carry out international projects under the EU Horizon 2020 programme as well as projects funded by the university and TÜBİTAK. One of these projects is TeSLA, approved by the European Commission: Adaptive Trust-based e-assessment System for Learning. The aim of TeSLA project is to improve the online assessment processes by developing tools and resources for learning activities that enable students to be authenticated and identified. The three-year project with a budget of 7 million euros will start in 2016. The coordinating institution of TeSLA project is the Open University of Catalonia in Spain.

The TeSLA consortium is made up of 18 partner institutions, known for their expertise in knowledge and research, with a team of about 60 members from the following countries: Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, Turkey, Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland and Mexico. Ten of these institutions are universities, three are quality assurance agencies, two are research centers and three are technology companies. The project team consists of Prof. Dr. Gülsün Eby, Asst. Prof. Dr. Serpil Koçdar, Asst. Prof. Dr. Muhammet Recep Okur and Dr. Nejdet Karadağ. A number of large-scale pilot studies will be conducted with over 14 thousand students across Europe within the project.