The Interuniversity Board has acknowledged that Open and Distance Learning is a subject area within social sciences, in which academics can get specialized and earn the title of associate professor. Thus, academics having their Master’s and PhD degree in open and distance learning will be able to have the title of associate professorship in their field of study.

Academics that had their Master’s and PhD degree and published papers in open and distance learning had to choose another field, e.g. education, administrative sciences or communication, before open and distance learning was acknowledged as a subject area for earning the title of associate professor. This posed certain challenges because of the differences between disciplines. The acknowledgement of open and distance learning as a subject area for associate professorship will eliminate the difficulties that academics specialized in this field have encountered, and encourage the production and systematization of knowledge in this field.
Textbooks have been the most fundamental learning materials since the launch of Open Education Faculty. The books used in the open education system are now sold online at Open Education Book Sales on the website of Anadolu University (http://kitapsatis.anadolu.edu.tr). The books in the open education system, designed according to individual learning principles, are now available to everyone. There is no more need to be an open education student to buy the books; anyone who wishes can buy them online at Open Education Book Sales.

Open Education Book Sales has a flexible, user-friendly and mobile-friendly interface. Thus, users will be able to sign in and purchase books easily.

As of today, 410 books are sold under 19 categories at Open Education Book Sales. The price of books sold online is 10 TL. The rate of shipping payable by the receiver at the door is provided during sales for the sole purpose of information. The system also offers "3D Secure Payment" option. Students enrolled in the open education system will continue obtaining their textbooks free of charge after completing their semester enrollment.
A VISIT FROM UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Res. Asst. Zeynep KARAL

A group of faculty members from Universiti Sains Malaysia visited our Faculty on November 4, 2015. Faculty members from both universities had the chance to have closer interaction during the visit. As a result of fruitful dialogues, the participants communicated their desire to exchange staff, student and technology between the two universities and to carry out joint projects. In the delegate that visited our Faculty from Universiti Sains Malaysia were Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustaffa Fadzil Farid Wajidi, Dean of the School of Distance Education, Dr. Ku Azam Tuan Lonik, Deputy Dean (Academic Affairs) of the School of Distance Education, Assoc. Prof. Dr Noresah Mohd Shariff, Deputy Dean (Research) of the School of Distance Education, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anees Janee Ali, Director of the International Office. For further information about the university, please visit https://www.usm.my/index.php/en.

2015 INCENTIVE AWARDS IN SCIENCE GRANTED

Asst. Prof. Dr. Nilgün ÖZDAMAR KESKİN

Asst. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Fırat, a faculty member in the Open Education Faculty, received 2015 Incentive Award in Science. Dr. Fırat has over 20 articles published in international journals in SSCI and other indexes, seven of which are single-author papers, and presented and published papers in many international conferences. Dr. Fırat is a referee in ten journals, two of which are SSCI journals, and authored books and chapters in books published by various national and international publishing houses. Mehmet Fırat is the coordinator of two projects and a researcher in four projects.
Anadolu University e-Certificate Programs

- **Number of e-Certificate Programs**: 23
- **Number of Certificate Holders**: 22,000
- **Total Number of Participants in e-Certificate Programs in 2015**: 11,782
- **Number of e-Certificate Participants in Teacher Training Programs**: 12,433

For information about e-certificate programs, please visit: [http://esertifika.anadolu.edu.tr/Bilgi.htm](http://esertifika.anadolu.edu.tr/Bilgi.htm)

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