



INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC INSTITUTE

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

International Virtual Academic Conference

**Education and Social Sciences
Business and Economics**

19 May 2021

IAI Book of Abstracts

Editor:

Milena Apostolovska-Stepanoska, Dr. Sci, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Republic of N. Macedonia

Editorial Board:

Hristina Ruceva Tasev, Dr. Sci, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Republic of N. Macedonia

Vasko Naumovski, Dr. Sci, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Republic of N. Macedonia

Meic Pearse, Dr. Sci, Houghton College NY, USA

Elif Uckan Dagdemir, Dr. Sci, Anadoly University, Turkey

Mary Mares-Awe, MA, Fulbright Association, Chicago, USA

Prof. Massimo Introzzi, Bococca University – Milan, Italy

Dr. Zahida Chebchoub, UAE University, Al-Ain

Dr. Benal Dikmen, Associate Professor, T.C. İstanbul Yeni Yüz Yıl University

Ass. Prof. Arthur Pantelides, American University, Bulgaria

Marija Boban, Dr. Sci, Faculty of Law, University of Split, Croatia

Gergana Radoykova, Dr. Sci Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria

Anthon Mark Jay Alguno Rivas, MA, Taguig City University, Philippines

Snezana Knezevic, Dr. Sci Faculty of Organizational Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

Eva Pocher, Ph.D., University of Glasgow

Ass. Prof. Mariam A. Abu Alim, Yarmouk University, Jordan

Ass. Prof Aleksandra Mitrović, University in Kragujevac, Serbia

Dr. Dorjana Klosi, University of “Ismail Qemali”, Vlore, Albania

Secretary and editing:

Filip Stojkovski

International Academic Institute

Ul. Todor Aleksandrov br.85-4

Skopje, Republic of N. Macedonia

ISBN 978-608-4881-22-3

Taxation trends in the EU and their impact on the business environment in the Slovak Republic

Peter Bielik, Dr.h.c. prof. Ing., PhD.¹, Miriam Buliková, Ing.², Mitko Zlatev Ing.³

¹*Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Management, Nitra, Slovakia*

²*Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Management, Nitra, Slovakia*

³*Fineca Tax Office, Nitra, Slovakia*

**Corresponding Author: e-mail: lez@centrum.sk*

Abstract

At present, each member state of the European Union decides independently in the field of tax legislation, but individual European regulations partially limit their budgetary policy and thus also the tax policy of these countries. This is mainly in the area of certain common tax rules and the setting of minimum tax rates in selected taxes. The European Union is making efforts to coordinate tax systems in order to gradually reach a harmonization of not only individual taxes but perhaps in the future, the harmonization of tax rates. The European Union is convinced that thanks to its measures, these countries can achieve better results in this area and increase their competitiveness in the international business. Based on the conducted research, we found that in terms of business entities (85.4%), the current tax burden in the Slovak Republic appears to be high. As many as (86.4%) of businesses stated that the current tax burden should be reduced and harmonized in some way within the EU in the future. The largest group (73.9%) of respondents were tax subjects, who stated that from their point of view, the optimal tax burden is that of a flat tax.

Keywords: taxation, tax policy, tax rates, tax burden, Slovak Republic

Level of Trust in the Services of Rural Banks in Taguig City: Inputs for Improving Marketing Strategies.

Kerwin Avelino

*Taguig City University, Faculty of Graduate School, Philippines
Kerwin Avelino: e-mail: avelinokerwin123@gmail.com*

Abstract

The study determined the customers' level of trust in the services of rural banks in Taguig City which could serve as inputs for improving marketing strategies. The findings were based on problems raised in the study.

Based on the findings: 1) Majority of customers are female, 21 to 30 years old, single, with monthly income of Php 20,000 and below, and college level. 2) Customers of rural banks in Taguig City were aware of the latter's services. The level of awareness on savings and time deposit services was high while the awareness on domestic and international remittance services needs improvement. 3) The services of rural banks in Taguig City were "much trusted". The level of trust on savings and time deposit services was high while trust on bills payment services needs improvement. 4) The level of awareness of customers towards the services of rural banks in Taguig City was significantly related to their demographic profiles. 5) There is a significant relationship between the customers' level of trust towards the services of rural banks in Taguig City and their demographic profiles. 6) A very high degree of correlation existed between the level of awareness and trust of customers towards the services of rural banks in Taguig City. 7) Marketing strategies need to be improved to further elevate the level of awareness and trust on the services of rural banks in Taguig City.

Digital and direct marketing were recommended as inputs for improving the marketing strategies of rural banks in Taguig City.

Keywords: Rural Bank, Trust in the Service, Level of Awareness, Marketing Strategy, Direct Marketing, Digital Marketing,

Towards a sustainable urban development: Challenges, risks, and opportunities in transitioning into circular construction

I Gede Wira Adhi Darmawan

*Urban Environmental Management, Wageningen University and Research, the Netherlands
Corresponding Author: e-mail: gedewira750@gmail.com*

Abstract

The traditional (linear) sequence of materials based on a ‘take-make-use-dispose’ practiced in the construction industry has been grossly contributed to the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions emitted into the environment. The construction industry has also long been considered as one of the largest consumers of raw materials and producers of waste. Recognizing this issue, many of the world’s countries and cities are planning and currently designing policies to adopt the principles of the Circular Economy (CE) (i.e., reuse, reduce, recycle) into the construction sector or the so-called Circular Construction (CC). Literature on CE practices in the construction sector however highlighted that the transition towards CC is a complex process. There is still lacking known about opportunities and risks arising from CC practices. Accordingly, this study aims to explore challenges, risks and opportunities in transitioning towards CC especially at the city or urban level. The study adopted a qualitative exploratory research design by which data were derived from analysis of secondary sources through literature review. In this paper, several challenges in conducting CC are identified which could be categorized under four dimensions: goals, cultural, regulatory, and market. Risks in implementing CC were grouped into a single dimension namely the negative side effects of CC while opportunities were categorized into economic, environmental, and technological. This study suggests adjustments to the goals towards CC, materials platforms development and further research to be conducted to identify unintended negative consequences of CC.

Keywords: Challenges, circular construction, circular economy, opportunities, risks, urban development.

Quality of Education and Economic Growth

Prof. Maja Bacovic PhD^{1*}, Bojan Pejovic, M.sc², Tanja Mirotic³,

¹ *University of Montenegro, Faculty of Economics. Member of the Committee for Economic Research and former member of the Centre of Young Scientists of the Montenegrin Academy of Arts and Sciences. ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8865-3924>*

² *University of Montenegro, Faculty of Economics; PhD student (University of Belgrade), bojan.p@ucg.ac.me*

³ *University of Montenegro, Faculty of Economics; tanja.mirotic@gmail.com*

**Corresponding Author: e-mail: majab@ucg.ac.me*

Abstract

Education has an undeniable value for the overall progress. Although the expenditure on education and the share of tertiary education graduates in the total population increased over the past two decades in Europe, the quality of education did not. The sample mean PISA scores in 2018 were almost equal to its 2000 values, even lower on the reading and science scales. It applies to the Human Capital index, with lower values in 2020 compared to 2018. The descriptive statistics analysis shows a strong linear association between the quality of education, output structure, income per person, productivity growth and research and development activities. Applying the panel least square (fixed effects) model to the sample of thirty-five European countries and the period from 1995 to 2020, we found that the contribution to output growth by tertiary educated employees, as well as the outcome of investment in research and development is significant and positive. Due to the relevance of investment in knowledge and human capital for sustainable growth, as quality of education is strongly correlated with both the share of persons with tertiary education and investment in research and development, its improvement is indispensable to foster economic growth.

Keywords: Quality of education, Tertiary Education, GDP growth, Labour productivity, Investment in research and development.

Nutritional business model of consumer behavior with special reference to honey

Associate prof. d-r Sasko Martinovski¹

¹*University of Bitola "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Technological and Technical Sciences–Veles, R. N. Macedonia*

^{*}*Corresponding Author: sasko.martinovski@uklo.edu.mk*

Abstract

The effects of globalization on industry in terms of economy and marketing, leads to the emergence of new types of consumers and changes in their purchasing behavior. The success of companies' operations depends on having information about consumer purchasing decisions by discovering the buying patterns of the best customers and predicting their buying behavior. Although consumer behavior is complex and diverse, it has structural and functional features that can be effectively simulated by modelling and later, based on the model created, to create software that is powerful and easy to use. The subject of this paper is modelling to create a nutritional business model of consumer behavior when buying food, with the inclusion of a special determinant that will include nutritional properties and the inclusion of self-explanatory component of the model. One of the concepts of modelling is to include modern and advanced information technologies such as GIS and data mining. The partial implementation of the model for honey as a food product that has high nutritional quality is shown, and for that purpose a previously conducted survey of honey consumers in R. N. Macedonia was used. From the analysis of the nutritional quality of honey and the analysis of the database obtained from the survey, several outputs of the model were obtained as useful information or knowledge, such as: the level of education of consumers about the nutritional properties of honey, the degree of influence of the nutritional properties of honey on purchasing decisions, etc. The conducted research presented in this paper will be valuable for: big and small enterprises, different species of associations (for honey or consumer) and Veterinary and Food Agencies.

Keywords: nutritional business model, nutrition, nutritional properties, consumer behavior, honey, self-explanatory

Intellectual capital management in family enterprises

Stefan Milojević¹, Jovan Travica², Milan Vujić³, Tamara Vujić,⁴ Javorka Travica⁵

¹ Teaching assistant, Faculty of Finances, Banking and Audit, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

² German teacher, Singidunum University, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

³ PhD student, University of Kragujevac, Faculty of Hotel Management and Tourism in Vrnjaska Banja

⁴ PhD student, University of Kragujevac, Faculty of Hotel Management and Tourism in Vrnjaska Banja

⁵ External consultant, National center for corporate education, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

*Corresponding Author: e-mail: jovan.s.travica@gmail.com

Abstract

Intellectual capital is crucial for promoting the competitiveness of both family enterprises and non-family enterprises. Intellectual capital is treated as a very important research topic. Therefore, based on the literature dedicated to family businesses and views on the enterprise based on intellectual capital, the purpose of this paper is to identify the specifics of intellectual capital management owned by family firms. This could help managers improve intellectual capital management in the family business.

Keywords: family enterprise, intellectual capital, management, specifics

Coronavirus Crisis Communication in the United Kingdom. Perspectives from Abroad

Delia Pop-Flanja ¹, Roxana-Maria Nistor (Gâz)²

¹Department of European Studies and Governance, Faculty of European Studies, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania

²Department of Foreign Languages for Specific Purposes, Faculty of Letters, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania

**Corresponding Author: e-mail: delia.flanja@ubbcluj.ro*

Abstract

The purpose of our research is to analyze the communication during the COVID-19 crisis in the United Kingdom, in the interval March 2020-March 2021. The applicability of crisis communication theories, such as the Situational Crisis Communication Theory of Timothy Coombs and the Image Restoration Theory of William Benoit, to national crisis situations will be explored, with a focus on the speeches of state officials and other civil servants. We consider that the perspectives from abroad on national crisis response strategies are relevant, in order to have a wider frame of reference in the response evaluation process.

Keywords: risk communication, crisis communication, COVID-19, the United Kingdom

City branding by culture: interwar Bucharest and its musical rhythms

Gabriela V. Popescu¹, Alina Bondoc²

¹Faculty of Communication and Public Relations, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Romania
Beneficiary of the project "Researcher-Entrepreneur on labour market in the field of intelligent spacialization (Cert-ANTREP)", project financed by the European Social Fund, Human Capital Operational Program 2014-2020

²University of Arts George Enescu, Romania

*Corresponding Author: Gabriela V. Popescu, e-mail: popescugabriela534@yahoo.com

Abstract

Our paper aimed at highlighting the way culture performed the leading role in a city branding strategy. The city branding strategy a complex and heterogenous construct addressing the same complexity and heterogeneity of stakeholders. According to more or less objective conditionalities, one or another strategic component may prevail and become the "leading goose" for the whole construct for a certain phase or period of time. As already stated, brands have developed in an organic and comprehensive connection with human society in all its complexity, including places, where this called society have always existed. Nowadays, culture has proven to perfectly performed the leading role in branding strategy. The objective of the present paper was to identify the moments, characters, scenes surprised in the music of interwar Bucharest aiming to be capitalized as authenticity elements of a subsequent city branding strategy. The corpus of the research was focused on the musical compositions and performances of famous artists in the interwar period. The research method was based on content analysis of musical compositions and performances of famous artists in the period. The research questions were: a) what elements of city branding were highlighted in these musical compositions?; b) how these elements created a storytelling to be capitalized in Bucharest branding? As result of the research, we had in view to recreate a more or less bohemian picture of what it was generally known as "little Paris" in order to have contributed to a consistent brand strategy of Bucharest.

Keywords: city branding, culture, interwar period, strategy

Rural housing typology in Akhalkalaki, Borjomi, Dedoplistskaro, Kazbegi, Keda Khulo, Lagodekhi and Tetrtskaro municipalities.

Khatuna Sitchinava; Nani Meparishvili; Micheil Robaqidze*

**Corresponding Author: e-mail: misharob1961@gmail.com*

Abstract

The article discusses the typology of living houses in eight regions of Georgia (Akhalkalaki, Borjomi, Dedoplistskaro, Keda Khulo, Keda Khulo, Lagodekhi and Tetrtskaro Municipalities). The purpose of the study was to identify measures to improve energy efficiency that will help residents of these municipalities to increase the level of comfort in residential buildings by reducing the use of energy resources and energy costs. It should be noted that 80% of private homes in all target municipalities are built from the same material, using almost identical heating devices. Therefore, it was decided to choose a notional single-family house for two climatic zones, as well as to assess the heat losses of this building and identify the necessary measures to improve energy efficiency.

In 2020, the Parliament of Georgia adopted the Law on Energy Efficiency, which is aimed at promoting the rational use of energy resources and improving the energy performance of new and existing buildings, taking into account the requirements and economic efficiency of both external and internal climatic conditions in the building.

In these municipalities, a notional single-family house was selected, the thermal loss of this building was assessed for both climatic zones and developed by recommendation measures for improving energy efficiency.

The political platform of Lef Nosi about the governance of Albanian state “The National Side of Albania”

Msc. Enkeleida (Agaçi) Nosi^{1*}, Msc. Besnik Bajrami²

^{1,2} Aleksandër Xhuvani” University, Elbasan, Albania

*Corresponding Author: e-mail: enkeleidanosi@hotmail.com

Abstract

At the beginning of year 1907, with growth of governmental pressure, among the activist of National Movement, at which was Lef Nosi too, was strengthen the conviction that the Ottoman Empire which was suffering the consequences of the liberation movements of balkan people and the intervention of Great Powers, could not provided the albanians any national right. At these conditions the solution was the immediately and final disconnection by this Empire, act that could not realised without a common center of albanian’s activity coordination or without allied among the powerful states which, even before, had made decisions about the destiny of the balkan people. The support of “important foreing friends”- as they called by Lef Nosi, was an important factor not only to the anti-albanian politic that continue to be followed by High Gate, but against the covetousness that balkan neighbors had on albanian lands. In October 4, of 1907-th, he will be one of the organizers and managements of the society “National Side of Albania”, whose center was in London, city that for a man like L. Nosi with an western orientation whom known rather better and valued the role of Great Britain to the indipendence movements of balkan people, was “the best place by the politic views”. The politic ideas of Lef Nosi, about the raise of a new albanian state on the bases of western civilization values, were filed clearly and concretely in the content of program of this society. Lef Nosi was elected First Member of the society “The National Side of Albania” and he took the responsibility to make known and to propagandized the purpose of the society and the goals of its program, not only to ensured the support of the foreing states for Albania, but to opposed the voices that talked about disruption and cold attitude of many compatriots emerged in Europe in conjunction with the national issues. Lef Nosi thought that the future of albanian state on the monarchist form of governance and selection of a prince from the progressive europian states- is a key element to the efforts for raising of albanian state.

Keywords: national rights, foreing friends, albanian state, national side, western civilization.

European Diplomacy and the Albanian Issue at the Congress of Berlin in June 1878

Juliana Hasekiu ¹, Majlinda Peza-Perriu ²

¹ PhD Candidate, Department of History, Faculty of Human Sciences University: "Aleksandër Xhuvani" Elbasan, Albania

² Associate Professor, Department of History, Faculty of Human Sciences University: "Aleksandër Xhuvani" Elbasan, Albania

*Corresponding Author: e-mail: julihasekiu16@gmail.com

Abstract

The Balkan region has been one of those regions that has historically produced rivalries and clashes between the Great Powers throughout the XIX century. A tense situation was present in the Balkans after the Russo-Turkish war of 1877 and the treaty of St. Stephen of 1878. The implementation of the latter's decisions would upset the fragile European balances. For this reason, a few months after St. Stephen's treaty, the Great Powers, on June 13, 1878, would gather in Berlin, to establish the disturbed balances in St. Stephen and curb Russian expansion in the Balkans. There is a view that European balance required the rescue of the weakened Turkey. Meanwhile, in order to mitigate the conflict between Russia and Great Britain and also, the divergences between Russia and Austria, through the decisions taken in this Congress, a large part of the Albanian territories would be sacrificed. New balances would be established in the Balkans, but that would serve as a premise for future conflicts between the Great Powers. Especially the conflict between Russia and Germany in this Congress, would prepare the events of the summer of 1914. Exactly, this event has not been adequately assessed and has not been reflected with full objectivity in the Albanian communist historiography, when the documents and other sources have been censored. These issues, which have a debatable nature, are reflected in this scientific paper, based on the use of domestic and foreign sources.

Keywords: Treaty of St. Stephen, Congress of Berlin, Viennese Diplomacy, The Great Powers, Regional geopolitics.

Linguistics and financial manipulation from the angle of manipulative communication

Jovan Travica¹, Stefan Milojević² Javorka Travica³ Jasminka Marjanović⁴, Zdravka Petković⁵

¹ German teacher, Singidunum University, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

² Teaching assistant, Faculty of Finances, Banking and Audit, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

³ External consultant, National center for corporate education, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

⁴ External consultant, National center for corporate education, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

⁵ Professor of Vocational Studies, Belgrade Business and Arts Academy of Applied Studies

*Corresponding Author: e-mail: jovan.s.travica@gmail.com

Abstract

Given the difficulties in detecting financial manipulation, it is time for investors and analysts to make significant efforts to develop new techniques for detecting fraud. Today, various law enforcement agencies and investigators are increasingly relying on linguistic tools and behavioural analysis. The basic premise of early detection of deceptive communication has value in itself and is of interest to many stakeholders. Researchers are continuously trying to find reliable indicators of fraud, and some are working on developing fraud prediction models to help auditors detect fraud. This paper considers linguistic aspects and financial manipulation from the angle of manipulative communication. The paper provides an informative background, and then details of the current state of research in the observed field. In addition, the paper proposes future research topics.

Keywords: linguistics, manipulative communication, financial manipulation

Some basic methods for the prospect of teaching business English as a second language

Nana Pertaia

*Shota Meskhia State Teaching University of Zugdidi, Georgia
Corresponding Author: e-mail: nanapertaia@yahoo.com*

Abstract

Teaching business English as a second language means helping learners develop their English skills for use in a business context. There are some requirements to be taken into considerations for the prospect of teaching business English:

Identifying objectives – teachers need to meet the interests of the learners from the very beginning of the course. This usually includes developing the following skills: making effective telephone calls, properly writing formal emails, running meetings smoothly and efficiently. Tailoring the lesson to the personal needs of the students will inevitably result regular and fruitful feedback.

Providing students with authentic resources for studying – students always give implications for creating particular lessons: texts for reading, emails, presentations etc. effective teacher should monitor the materials to create the authentic resources for the students to learn.

Being flexible and taking unforeseen problems into account – for learners work is their priority. Consequently, cancellations of the lessons at any time are expected. Teachers should ask them to warn about it in advance and try to create activities that work on conventional classes as well as on-to-one basis.

Teaching business language, interaction and correspondence – although teaching methods vary according to the class, there are some common areas for teachers to concentrate on: it's obligatory to make a research about the sector learners are engaged in order to provide them with the appropriate vocabulary; skills for interactions are of great importance. Speaking over the phone, meetings, negotiations are the examples of how English is used in a business setting. Teachers should organize role - play activities as relevant business situations.

Teaching in a business-like way – teacher's appearance should coincide with the business atmosphere: it emphasizes professionalism and competence.

So, above mentioned aspects will ensure business language learners to put them into immediate use outside the classroom.

The importance of student self-assessment technique in the learning achievements of students

Zamira Gashi Shatri ¹, Naser Zabeli ²

¹*Department of Pedagogy, Faculty of Education, University of Gjakova, Kosovo.*

²*Department of Pedagogy, Faculty of Education, University of Prishtina, Kosovo.*

Abstract

Self-assessment like a formative assessment technique has a direct impact on student learning and achievement. Through self-assessment students have the opportunity to assess themselves in regards to learning goals and assess their achievements. The purpose of this research is to reflect the benefits of student self-assessment on student achievement in learning. Another purpose of this research is to know which are advantages and disadvantages of student self-assessment, tools of self-assessment for student self-assessment, and self-assessment as self-regulation. Our paper was based on meta-cognitive theory.

Two hundred and two students from class VII and VIII (aged 13-14), and thirty two teachers who teach in the field of Society and environment (Civic Education, Geography and History) from four lower secondary schools in Kosovo are responded in the questionnaires. From the results, it appears that self-assessment of students has more benefits and fewer disadvantages. The benefits are seen that students express themselves more freely if given the opportunity, gain self-confidence that they have strong values and virtues which encourage for better academic results and life in general. The disadvantage is seen that students may overestimate or underestimate themselves.

Keywords: benefits of student self-assessment, disadvantages of student self-assessment, underestimation of students, overestimation of students, lower secondary school.

Thai High School Student's Perception on the Need of Private Tutoring

Matina Chaiwarut¹, Passara Vajanavit²

^{1*} Ekamai international School, Bangkok, Thailand

² Ekamai International School, Bangkok, Thailand

Abstract

The growing phenomenon of the private tutoring industry in Thailand can be seen in various forms, including established institutions and self-employed tutors, distinctively provided through multiple modes like individual sessions, group sessions, and the most recent form of pre-recorded lectures. The significant emergence of the tutoring industry results from an increase in students' need to take private tutoring courses during their high school lives. This study now explored the students' perceptions of six different motives, causing them to feel the need to take tutoring courses. The six motives include *to prepare for standardized tests, to be able to enter their desired university, to improve school performance, to expand their own knowledge, to act in accordance with their parents' wishes, and to follow their peers' influence*. A survey conducted via an online platform received a total of 200 respondents, all of whom are Thai high school students. Allowing the respondents to choose more than one option, the results show that the majority of the students took tutoring courses *to prepare for standardized tests* and *to be able to enter their desired university*, which is up to 67% and 65.5%, respectively. To further strengthen this result, over 31% and 26% of the Thai high school students chose the option "strongly disagree" and "disagree", respectively, with the statement that, "Lessons and teachings provided by the school is enough for me to get accepted into their desired university." This now sums up to more than half of the respondents thinking that schools alone are not sufficient for their planned future. Moreover, 34.5% and 40% of the respondents chose the option "agree" and "strongly agree", respectively, with the following statement "Private tutoring guarantees my university acceptance more than my school." In conclusion, according to the students' perspective, tutoring courses are viewed as necessary for taking standardized tests and entering university, despite already receiving education and support from their school. Therefore, this survey raises the concern of the Thai school education system's inefficiency in providing high school students the necessary academic assistance to pursue higher-level education.

Keywords: private tutoring, Thai education system, Thai high school students, university acceptance, standardized tests

The Trend of Involvement in Physical Activities and Sports Among Children Aged 8-14 in the City of Tirana

Enkeleda Muka, MSc.

Sports University of Tirana

**Corresponding Author: e-mail:emuka@ust.edu.al*

Abstract

According to Professor Mark Tremblay, President of the AHKGA, Senior Scientist at the CHEO Research Institute,(2010) “Global trends, including excessive screen time, are contributing to a generation of inactive children and putting them on a dangerous path”.

“Time spent outdoors in the early years is correlated with physical activity levels among children” (Sallis et.al., 1993). This research aims to demonstrate the prevalence of everyday physical activities among children in Tirana. A total of 182 children (84 boys, 98 girls) are surveyed by the self-administered questionnaire PAQ-C (Kowalski et al., 2004) for assessing the prevalence of physical activity (during the last week). The pupils who completed the self-report questionnaire range in age from 8 to 14. The data show that children are engaged in walking at 47% while 45% of them do jumping, 42% do bicycling and 41% running. 65% of children do regularly always P.E classes while 1% of them never do P.E classes. 40% of children run and play hard most of their recess time while 13% of them sit down (talking, reading, doing schoolwork). 41% of children stay sit down (talking, reading, doing schoolwork) at lunch time. 34% of children never do physical activity right after school while 25% of them do it 2-3 times a week. 31% of children never do physical activity at the evening while 34% of them do it 2-3 times a week. 46% of children do physical activity 2-3 times a week while 9% of them never do it and 13% of them do physical activity every day. Children at age group 11-14 years old have higher participation in all daily activities compare to them of 8-10 years old. Boys and girls are almost equally active during the week activity.

Keywords: children, physical activities, active lifestyle, physical education classes.

Education level and schooling of Elbasan women during the years 1925-1939

Prof. Assoc.PhD. Rudina Mita¹, Prof.Assoc.PhD.Artan Ibershimi², Msc. Besnik Bajrami³

¹"Aleksander Xhuvani" University, Elbasan, Albania, Faculty of Humanities, History Department

²Lecturer in the Department of Scenography / Costume Design / Choreography at the Faculty of Performing Arts, University of Arts, Tirana, Republic of Albania

³ PhD student at "Aleksander Xhuvani" University, Elbasan, Albania

*Corresponding Author: e-mail: rudinamita@hotmail.com

Abstract

This work aims to shed light on the education of women in the years 1925-1939, in the region of Elbasan, described by the intellectual elite as one of the vital aspects for the country and the future of generations. Following the objectives of the previous period, the aim was to create an education system based on the principles of nationalization, unification, secularization and massification. The efforts in the first three aspects were satisfactory, while in the context of massification (increase of participation) in 1925-1939 the emphasis was on the inclusion of the female element in it, as an important part of Albanian society. Albanian women to be positioned with dignity in society had to have a formative education and cultural development, which could be achieved through education. Elbasan women as an integral part of society had to change its reality. Thanks to state support and social emancipation policies, significant and tangible progress has been made, such as the opening of girls' schools in Elbasan, the engagement of female teachers in schools, the increase in the number of girls in female schools and the mixed level primary and secondary schools, participation in cultural and artistic activities in Elbasan, support for the initiative to remove the veil and cover, etc. Many of the women from Elbasan were educated abroad, thus becoming the first promoters of a significant change of women from Elbasan in particular and Albanian women in general. They became the first swallows that would bring the spring of change in the country by removing the veil of darkness, ignorance and in constant war with religious fanaticism, the canonical code and the backward medieval mentality of Albanian society. For the compilation of this paper, documents from the Central State Archive, important sources of Albanian historiography, the press of the time and the memories of the memorialists were used.

Keywords: Education; emancipation; female educational staff; massification; intellectual.

Ritual Dances of Earth and Rain

Prof. assoc.phd. Artan Ibërshimi

Lecturer in the Department of Scenography / Costume Design / Choreography at the Faculty of Performing Arts, University of Arts, Tirana, Republic of Albania
**Corresponding Author: e-mail: artanibershimi@yahoo.com*

Abstract

This paper addresses a part of the Albanian ethno-choreographic wealth, the ritual dances of rain and earth. The dances of this nature have created a tradition where it is expressed one of the most important processes of human life, his relationship with earth. The creation of connecting bridges between the concrete life process and dance reveals the ability the latter has as a human activity. The paper also analyses the structural construction of the ritual dances, where their artistic result is the intersection of the poetic text, the musical accompaniment and the dancing elements. Moreover, the dramaturgical line of the ritual action in this kind of dance is also discussed since it creates a motor morphology that clearly expresses its content. The analyses in this paper are based on the recordings of some dances in k/n, deposited in the Archive of the Former Institute of Folcloric Culture, in Tirana. The samples are extracted from different regions of the country, from north to south. In the representative samples that this paper refers to, it is searched and confirmed the role, the place and the importance that their presence has on the Albanian ethno-choreography. At the same time, considering these samples shows the values of an early tradition in the Albanian dance characterised by a diverse, emotional content.

Keywords: ritual, ritual dance, the planting ritual, the rain ritual, dance, choreographic structure, plastic imitation.

Genetic and Genomic Analysis Using Krylov Subspace Methods

Amanda Zeqiri ¹, Eglantina Kalluçi ², Xhilda Merkaj³

^{1,2,3} Department of Applied Mathematics, Faculty of Natural Science, Albania
e-mail: amanda.zeqiri@fshn.edu.al

Abstract

In Bioinformatics studying and understanding large/complex biological data is very important, particularly in the field of genomics and genetics. Complex diseases are typically caused by a combination of genetic and environmental factors not just by individual genes. Genetics studies single genes and their effects in inherited disorders. Meanwhile, genomics examines interactions of all genes with each other and with environmental factors. Networks are one way to represent these biological and biomedical systems that consist of DNA, RNA and proteins molecules and can be useful to capture interactions between them. By using matrix functions of the network's adjacency matrix, we can evaluate the importance of entities. Important entities give information about the local or global influence (or both) of these molecules on the whole network.

The analysis of large biological data, represented by thousands of variables, usually genes, in dozens of samples, can be quite expensive. High-dimensional microarray data (a sequence of dots of DNA, protein, or tissue) from experiments are set into arrays to be easily processed. Microarrays are used to study gene expression levels of a particular condition in a given organism. Only a few genes play an important role in causing the condition, consequently dimension reduction can be applied in order to highlight the extract the few most important genes from thousands. So, the large number of variables (genes) can be brought down to a much smaller number without losing any significant information.

Krylov subspace methods are a great tool for complex network analysis and for estimating the dominant subspace in dimension reduction problems based on their orthogonality, minimization and matrix-free properties. They can be used to evaluate centrality measures for biological entities, communicability, clustering properties, as well as top k eigenvalue and corresponding eigenvectors (without having to compute all eigenvalues). In this paper are performed different experiments using real biological networks with thousands of nodes and gene expression microarrays for different type of cancers, containing up to 16.000 gene types, 150 samples and different classes. Methods used for network properties and dimension reduction in large arrays are contemporary Krylov methods from different authors. The purpose of this paper is to highlight the advantage of these methods in large-scale and real-life applications, providing fast convergence with low storage cost.

Keywords: Krylov methods, Biological Networks, Microarray Data, Gene Expression, Complex Network Analysis, Dimension Reduction.
