Confronting Educational Challenges and Reshaping Future Education

Longjun Zhou

Jiangsu Second Normal University, Nanjing 211200, Jiangsu, China

“Unless you challenge yourself, you will not learn. You will not grow. Education is the art of challenging and overcoming.”

—Amit Ray

EDUCATION is more complicated and difficult than many other human activities because it involves the complexity and diversity of mankind. For centuries, numerous educational practitioners and researchers have devoted themselves to the exploration of educational practice and theories and have achieved remarkable accomplishments. However, humans are still plagued by a multitude of educational complications. Reimagining Our Futures Together: A New Social Contract for Education published by UNESCO in 2021 is a report that integrates investigations, evaluations, imagination, and initiatives in response to a series of crises in global educational transformation. It raises some essential questions: What should be the proper educational paradigm for the future decades leading to 2050 and beyond? What roles should future education play in improving people’s quality of life, eliminating injustices, and promoting peaceful and sustainable development of humanity? How to reshape the futures of mankind and the planet by recasting knowledge structure, teaching, and learning in a world of increasing complexity, uncertainty, and fragility (UNESCO, 2021)? The Report offers us implications in various aspects including: educational investment – to make input in education the first priority and ensure precision management of the
funding; inclusion and equality – to provide care and service to the underprivileged and groups who needs special education; digital and AI education – to be alert to the “digital divide” and the consequential exacerbated educational inequity; changes in global environments, which might affect the patterns of international exchange and cooperation in education.

Educational development is the foundation for the renewal and transformation of the world. To better serve the growth of students and societal development, it is crucial to conduct relevant research on educational issues – to identify the fundamental, critical issues that have constrained educational development, to investigate into them, and find solutions to problems. That is what this journal has been committed to. Over the past year, it has focused on subjects such as the reform of basic education and teaching across the world, the development of regional education, the impact of educational environments on education and teaching, the application of information technology to teaching, new classroom instruction models as well as the innovation of curricula and course contents, in an effort to provide pathways to the effective solution to prevalent problems in global education.

In this issue, topics such as reliability generalization study of the computational thinking scale (Kiyici & Kahraman, 2022), scientific reasoning skills of pre-service science teachers (Sahin & Sasmaz Oren, 2022), challenges of future education (Hua, 2022), mobile game addiction among schoolchildren (Feng, 2022), reading behavior of primary and secondary school students (Zhou, 2022) are discussed. Looking to the coming New Year, the journal will, as always, adhere to its focus on promoting the development of education, resolving educational problems, and driving educational innovation. Using the UNESCO’s report as guidance, it will pay special attention to issues concerning sustainable development of education, investment in education, regional education development, educational and teaching transformation, curricular reform, comprehensive development of students, teacher professional development, educational technology, educational evaluation and tests, and more. It is proposed that discussions on these subjects will expand the body of educational knowledge, bring about new pedagogical approaches, and promote healthy, scientific development of education.

References


Hua, M. (2022). Pathways to successful transformation of basic education amid educational crises: A case study of the experiments in educational reform by 271 Educa-

Sahin, F., & Sasmaz Oren, F. (2022). Laboratory as an instrument in improving the scientific reasoning skills of pre-service science teachers with different cognitive styles. *Science Insights Education Frontiers*, 13(2):1875-1897. DOI: [https://doi.org/10.15354/sief.22.or072](https://doi.org/10.15354/sief.22.or072)

UNESCO. (2021). Reimagining Our Futures Together: A New Social Contract for Education. UNESCO. (2021-11-2). Available at: [https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379707/?q=contentidnull&queryld=28abb3be-44fa-41e8-acce-004b75d2ad95](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379707/?q=contentidnull&queryld=28abb3be-44fa-41e8-acce-004b75d2ad95)


*Correspondence to:* Longjun Zhou PhD Jiangsu Second Normal University Nanjing 211200 Jiangsu China E-mail: 294437034@qq.com

*Conflict of Interests:* None. 
*Doi:* 10.15354/sief.22.ed022