

2.4 アナドル大学（トルコ）との共同研究（4）

2.4-4 高等教育における国際協力

アナドル大学の西欧における高等教育プログラム実情調査研究

An Investigative Research on International Collaboration in Higher Education : A Case of Anadolu University and Its Educational Program in W.Europe *

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Abstract

This report is based upon the investigative research on the international collaborative programs in major distance education institutions in the world conducted by a NIME research team and funded by the University of the Air. The paper describes the general characteristics of Anadolu University, a mega-university in terms of distance education in the world, with a focus upon the special program provided by its Open Education Faculty for Turkic residents in Western European countries.

<Keywords> distance education, cross-cultural education, international collaboration, educational exchange

* A paper presented at the 19th Annual JET Conference (2003)

Introduction

As a result of the progress of globalization and internationalization at various levels of human activities, borderless collaboration and competition are taking place in higher education. Some institutions are developing overseas campuses and providing courses, while the planning of international consortia for sharing courses and educational content is under way in higher education worldwide. The purpose of this research is to study into the current status of collaboration across different cultures which has been pursued by major higher education institutions in the world. As such, Anadolu University in Turkey provides extensive educational programs in collaboration with H.E.institutions in other countries. This paper focuses upon its educational programs aiming to provide educational opportunities for Turkish residents in Western Europe.

Brief Overview of Anadolu University

In 1982, with the new regulations in Turkish higher education, Anadolu University was founded. Anadolu University, with the establishment of Open Education Faculty, put distance education into practice in order to provide educational opportunities for more people in Turkey and Turkic states.

Since 1982, Anadolu University has improved the established system of distance education and opened up 81 information centers in 77 towns in order to provide academic advising services for its students. In 1986, students from the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and Western Europe have also been accepted to the program provided by Anadolu University. Today, due to its distance learning system Anadolu University is considered among one of the 10-mega universities of the world. In its attempts to become second to none, Anadolu University has intensely focused on providing quality education and establishing the infrastructure required by contemporary educational technologies; thus all of the academic units have been equipped with the necessary computer facilities, studios and laboratories. In addition, in most of the faculties language of instruction is English and a one-year preparatory English program is compulsory.

Open Education Faculty

Open Education Faculty conducts two-year associate degree programs, degree completion programs and certificate programs. This faculty has a peculiar status among the three schools that constitute the Distance Education System of Anadolu University because the tasks of student administration, course books printing, production of radio and TV programs, data processing services, academic counseling activities and the student examinations are assigned to this faculty. In another words Open Education Faculty has the responsibility of providing services to the system where as the other faculties have only academic functions.

Programs in Western Europe

West European Programs, which are the extension of The Department of Economics and Administrative Sciences in West Europe programs, started at 1987-1988 academic year. These programs are coordinated by the branch office established at Cologne-Germany. Economics (BA degree), Management and Organization (BA degree), Foreign Trade (Assoc. degree) programs are offered to Turkish citizens living in Western European countries mainly in Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, and Austria.

The examinations for the West Europe program students are held at 11 centers (Wine, Brussels, Cologne, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Munich, Berlin, Stuttgart, Den Hag, Paris, and Bern) separate from the students in Turkey. As of the 1998-1999 academic year, the number of students registered to these programs was 1185, and the total number of graduates since 1998 is 1766. Anadolu University Cologne Office also provides administrative support for

student services (registration, examinations, etc.) to Ministry of Education for offering Open High School programs to Turkish citizens living in Europe.

International Collaboration

Anadolu University works closely with many organizations to conduct distance education activities. The university has collaborations with international institutions for cooperation in the field of distance learning and teaching. Hoca Ahmet Yesevi University of Kazakhstan is one of the partners of Anadolu University to design and offer distance courses to on-campus students at Kazakhstan. Also, Anadolu University has been in contact with Israel Open University for cooperation in distance education issues. There is an intention for the performance of a joint distance education symposium in the year 2001. Furthermore, Anadolu University, Israel Open University and Japan's National Institute of Multimedia Education (NIME) submit a tri-partite joint project proposal to Toyota foundation for a possible tripartite collaborative research.

Prospective Collaboration with Japan

Though Anadolu University has been providing programs for Turkic residents abroad, it is yet to catch up with other major distance education institutions in North America, Australia and some Asian Countries in terms of international collaboration by distance mode.

The University is, therefore, very anxious to establish exchange programs with major higher education institutions overseas. As has been found in this investigative research, the distance education system and course delivery methods are similar to those by the University of the Air in Japan. With close ties established between Anadolu and NIME through mutual visits and continuous discussions on joint research Anadolu University is very keen to extend its relationship with Japan to higher administrative levels of the University of the Air as well. As widely perceived, there are similarities between Japan and Turkey in their cultural and linguistic backgrounds. It is expected that collaborative exchange programs will flourish between the two extreme ends of Asia in the years ahead.