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Preface

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In these two EJSBS Special Volumes VI and VII Design in Mind 1 and 2 you can find the selected peer reviewed papers mostly presented in ICEEPSY 2013 Conference but also some other articles which have been sent to EJSBS Journal and selected to this issue.

The theme of this special volume is design in mind. Designing is seen as a holistic concept including all arts educational or other educational design and creative methods in education, learning and learning environments. Design can be seen as the most magical of all human cognitive endeavours. The holistic approach to the concept of design in mind can be connected with products as well as processes of learning and the arts. The idea of design can be seen as a conversation or interaction in the learning process. This dialogue can be an interaction in many languages, including fantasy, the arts and science. 'Design in mind' is a creative process that offers new ways of thinking and sharing ideas in a group. We believe that design is a process in which problems are discussed and solved, in which the educational atmosphere is open to new ideas and in which design is seen as a generic cultural activity.

We are interested in how these creative ideas can be supported in teacher education, schools and early childhood education and educational psychology through pedagogical teamwork especially in the arts and through the arts. The aim of this special volume is to share research and learn more to understand the human creative mind in design processes and education. Also to share, learn, develop and practise this understanding of the new learning environments in teacher education, schools and day care centres. The articles promote different arts educational topics, creative thinking and new learning environments. Both qualitative and quantitative research approaches are used to solve the problems.

Design in mind education can also be seen as a tool of developing cultural sensitivity and interaction. Through research the different approaches and solutions are promoted in scientific publications. The main educational aim is to promote the well-being of children by means of creative solutions in education and educational psychology. We hope that this issue opens discussion in research about design in mind for widening the creative capacity of educators through sharing their research results and ideas.

University of Helsinki, the 11th of November 2013

Editors

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