

Paper Presentations

Room G

Session 1:

Associate Professor Mona Dahms made a brief history of the need for special refresher training for women engineers in Afghanistan after the collapse of the Taliban regime.

The ratio of female engineers in Afghanistan is quite high approximately 30%

An overview of the Course, problems encountered and questions raised were carried out

The main theme for discussion was on "Is there a Universal Learning Style?" especially in a cross-cultural setting.

Session 2:

Ms Liz Whitelegg (UK), Senior Lecturer at the Open University stresses on the purposes of context-based approach in learning science and the ways to implement this approach in classroom vary considerably.

Various theories and context-based curriculum projects were put forward

Various issues for text-based learnings such as connection between science concepts and out-of-school interests, context, role of teachers, cultural appropriateness in diverse classroom, how to develop science learning using indigeneous knowledge within a cultural approach.

Session 4:

Nan Armour presented The Hypatia project focuses on issues that limit women's participation and role in Science and Technology.

Session 5:

Valerie Johnston discussed ICT integration in Canada and particularly The Ontario Knowledge Network for Learning which promotes a vision for ICT in education by enabling access through student learning initiatives and enhancing disability learning. Computers for Schools-Canada as an infrastructure enabling activity for provinces was also discussed.

Discussion highlights:

ORANGE HOME GROUP SESSION

People studying abroad in countries with different educational system, religious beliefs, clothing habits: barrier to integration: *Is it an issue to be taken by GASAT?*

Boys chosen for higher studies at the expense of girls as parents are against girls' higher studies.

In Nigeria, due to high cost, girls are not encouraged to go for tertiary education. All the money spent for the training of boys unless parents are rich.

Talk by Mr. Ramroop: At one point in time all Mauritian child has to choose which subject s/he is going to take for higher studies, sometimes parents decide but once they go in any field it is difficult to change stream.

GASAT papers should be chosen on the basis of practice and not about Government policies and what is going to be implemented. These papers should not be accepted by GASAT.

Keynote Address-Thursday Morning

"The Emerging Gender-ICT Agenda in Education" Professor Lesley Parker

Conference Evaluations are needed from every participant.

If you have not received yours at Home Group - please pick one up in the foyer and return a.s.a.p.