

Dear Readers,

The GiLE Foundation, the Publisher of GJSD, believes in doing good things for good reasons. In keeping with the mission and purpose of the GiLE Foundation, we exist to serve young people. For this reason, we empower and *connect young people with diverse stakeholders* - educators, researchers, coaches, trainers and a global community of professionals - who have *insights into young people's skills development*. One way of doing this is to promote dialogue between academia, trainers, and the corporate sector and provide opportunities for disseminating research results in our journal and at our online international scientific conference.

The GJSD was established in 2021 and is now in its second year. Since its inception, the Journal has aspired to impact its target audience – authors and readers - and to provide *a medium and a knowledge hub* for the dissemination of research results in the field of transferrable skills, a complex set of personal characteristics, with a particular focus on young people's skill needs, the challenges they face and youth employability.

We are proud to be part of the *Open Access Publication Model*, where authors do not pay any Article Processing Charges (APCs) and where content is openly and freely available to everyone. We believe that removing barriers for academics, practitioners, and readers helps us create and disseminate valuable knowledge. We are grateful to the authors whose views created *the unique collection of insights* in Volume 2, Issue 1 (2022) of the journal.

Our *Guest Column* comes from Dr Doug Cole and Dr William Donald. They call for shifting the narrative toward a more holistic approach to learning and preparing students for entry into the graduate labour market. They discuss the value of lifelong and lifewide learning to promote career sustainability in preparation for the future world of work.

The theme is continued in our *Food for Thought* article written by Dr Mauro Giacomazzi, calling for contextualisation of soft skills assessment and enhancement. Specifically, the author highlights the need for inclusivity and cultural nuances to be considered.

The issue continues with three *Research Articles* that (i) explore how university careers advisors and graduate recruiters can develop win-win relationships through close collaboration (Dr William Donald & Dr Thomas Buckholtz), (ii) asks if young graduates in Italy are ready for entry into the graduate labour market (Dr Lucilla Crosta & Ms Valentina Banda), and (iii) proposes an assessment model of the congruence between people and work skills (Dr Jaisso Vautero).

The issue concludes with three *Early Career Research Articles*. We are delighted that several PhD students and researchers in the early stages of their careers submitted manuscripts. One of the purposes of the Journal is to offer an outlet and extra support with finalising their manuscripts to researchers who are establishing themselves in the field.

The three papers here cover: (i) adaptability and problem solving as survival skills (Ms Khin Khin Thant Sin), (ii) meaningful mentorship relationships in higher education (Miss Alexandra Zografu & Miss Laura McDermott), and (iii) switching to online learning via the flipped classroom (Ms Jolanta Hudson).

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We hope you enjoy the first issue of 2022 as much as we enjoyed working with the manuscripts submitted in this publication round. We hope that your ideas will be challenged and that you will find topics that interest you. We encourage researchers, educators, trainers and those with a non-academic background to read these research papers and submit a paper to contribute to dialogue with our readership for a future issue of the journal.

Having said all of this, on behalf of the 2021-2022 Editorial Team, I'd like to extend many thanks to those who submitted a manuscript, as well as all those who put their reviewing and editing skills to good use, devoted a lot of time and effort, and continued to support GJSD's endeavours to publish papers on skills development.

With best wishes to all readers, authors and visitors of our website.

**Dr. Judit Beke**

Dr. Judit Beke is the Editor-in-Chief, Co-creator of the GiLE Foundation

