## Editorial

The Virtual University of Pakistan (VUP) established in 2002 is the only online university in Pakistan. In its early period the VUP was primarily a teaching university. Similar to the world over evolution of virtual mode of teaching-learning, the VUP had to struggle hard for ensuring the quality of education and establishing the worth of online degrees. The graph of acceptability and value of online education is going upward worldwide and so in Pakistan. The practitioners in the conventional and virtual modes are learning from the strengths of each other converging into blended learning. The VUP is also adopting blended learning matching to the needs of various disciplines and subjects.

Now with its rich experience in multitasking of online teaching-learning, the University is gradually shifting its focus towards research and knowledge sharing by organizing conferences, seminars, symposia and other discussion forums at the local, national and international levels.

The VUP is fully cognizant of its role in the dissemination of knowledge and research. Therefore, for providing the researchers an extended opportunity of dissemination of their work, the VUP launched the online Journal of Distance Education and Research (JDER) in 2016. For wider multimode dissemination its print version is being added from the third volume. JDER is a peer reviewed multidisciplinary journal using blind review by the national and international reviewers. The Journal welcomes articles relating to the online teaching learning environment at all levels of the educational ladder. Nonetheless, articles relating to the other modes of distance education, conventional education, and blended learning are also accepted for better understanding of each of the mode for enrichment of teaching and learning.

I am confident that the JDER will soon become an esteemed scholarly journal for the practitioners and academia for sharing innovations and critical issues in the field of education.

Munawar Mirza
Editor