

**eLearnit 2020 Virtual Conference**

**Navigating Through COVID-19 to Ensure Quality Learning**

**9-11 June 2020**

Dear Sir / Madame,

We would like to express our thanks in your vital contribution to eLearnit 2020. It has brought robust value to the learning experience. We have received questions from our attendees that were not put forward during the live session. We hope you do not mind answering them so these may be uploaded onto the conference website as additional resource. You may choose not to answer any questions that were already tackled during the live session. Please insert your responses after each question below.

**Name of Speaker: Dr. Nidhi Goyal**

**Date and Time of Presentation: 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Title of Presentation: 'Adapting' to Remote Teaching-Learning Amid COVID 19 in Bahrain**

Questions:

1. Can you share us some of the challenges you encounter in terms of providing marks to the students

Before I answer the question specifically, I would like to brief about the assessments and marking procedure at Royal University for Women, Bahrain. At RUW, the students are assessed continuously, through examinations, coursework, written reports, projects, portfolios and practice based assessments. For each kind of assessments, as mentioned, we have its own set of assessment evaluation criteria that we call 'rubric'. The rubric for each assessment is made available (uploaded on LMS) in advance, enabling students to consider all the significant points.

During the current times, as we went complete online for teaching-learning, the assessment submission was conducted online as per the schedule. However, at RUW, the assessment practice remained unchanged. Instructors followed the standard operating procedure for assessment and providing the marks.

As mentioned, we conduct multiple assessments throughout the semester for continuous evaluation, but for the current semester, amid COVID-19, realising the fact that students are relying primarily on online resources and also they are stressed, we made slight changes. (a) We reduced the numbers of the assessment so that students can deliver with ease. (b) Final year projects were simplified, as it requires face-to-face interaction with the supervisors. And thus, rubrics were modified accordingly.

Thus, assessments and marking actually was quite a smooth sail, at RUW.

2. Do you think that online learning will replace (kick out) the classroom learning?

In the wake of COVID 19 pandemic, all the education institutions had two options, close or continue. We all chose the option 2, and continued with transition to online teaching-learning. Globally at all education levels, educators and students, evolved, adapted and used the various 'e-education tools' e.g. zoom, googlemeet, LMS systems etc.

Traditional/ classroom/ offline teaching, indeed is the foundation of the education system, featured by active engagement, encouragement with peers participation, 'real time' supervision, etc. E learning are the tools, and not a replacement of the traditional classroom. Both offline and online learning have to harmonize with each other, give solutions, to prepare students for the upcoming challenges and opportunities of the future. Online learning would change the traditional classroom, that we know today, to create a progressive learning experience for students, all over the world.