Letter of Motivation   Ph.D. Candidacy   Evamaria Brigitta Kaiser
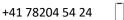
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To
Prof. Dr. Gyöngyvér Molnár
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Chennai, 26 July 2022

Respected Prof. Dr. Gyöngyvér Molnár,

Regarding the correspondence with Prof. Dr. Barkow from the University of Applied Sciences Grisons, I am expressing my interest in a Ph.D. candidacy under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Benő Csapó, addressing the research topic "Assessment systems: feedback and accountability", as outlined in the thesis topic proposals on the University of Szeged-Homepage: https://doktori.hu/index.php?menuid=116&num=162&lang=EN

While doing my BA studies in Education, I became particularly interested in Educational Technologies as means to strive for equity. I proceeded with my MA studies in Educational Technology which I completed in 2018. I continuously engage in professional development with the recent achievement of becoming an ISTE certified educator. Working as a teacher, educational technologist and in leadership positions inside and alongside the education system, I gained experiences in various educational settings and roles across the globe. This has helped me to understand that providing learning environments with the infrastructure and training for holistic, competency-based learning is crucial in fostering 21st century skills such as problem-solving, divergent, and critical thinking. In this regard, research about and development of technologies for formative, cross-curricular skills training and assessment is very much needed to strive for equity by facilitating personalized learning pathways and allowing engagement with learning content anytime and anywhere. Further, the pandemic, the war, and subsequent migration shed light on the importance of offline digital learning. In this regard, I am engaged in a study about offline digital learning with the means of a new technology that can make online programmes available offline. The mentioned study is a follow-up study that builds upon conclusions of the following publications to bridge the growing digital divide. The articles "Transcending Motivation Barriers in Technology-Enhanced Language Learning", as well as "Neph E Club – Successful Social Media Learning Model – Six Years on with 1K Nephrologists as Members" also show how crucial it is to tackle the digital divide as well as foster digital literacy skills, for which offline digital programmes hold huge potential to address areas that are poorly equipped with internet access or that require data - and cyber secure technologies. I would like to pursue research on the potential of offline learning and assessment systems in remote areas where, at the same time, heritage preservation can be done easily. I am convinced that in this manner, quality education learning environments with training can also be provided to the nearly fifty percent of the world population that does not have internet access.

Receiving the honor to study with you at the prestigious University of Szeged, I consider it a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to follow my calling in striving for equity in education by gaining expertise in digital offline learning combined with cross-curricular skills assessment. Thank you for considering taking me as a Ph.D. candidate. I am happy to provide further details upon request.
I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Evamaria Kaiser