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The Impact of Design-related Workshops as Extracurricular Activities on Industrial Design Students' Educational and Professional Development

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The last couple of years have witnessed an increase in the number of workshops related to design, which are organized as extracurricular activities for students. Despite the rising interest and participation of industrial design students in these workshops, we do not encounter any systematic research focusing on this subject. Addressing this gap, this study captures the overall picture of industrial design students' participation in extracurricular design workshops. This study is particularly interested in their motivations for participating in these workshops as well as their expectations with regards to their education and professional development. Two research methods were employed to collect data from industrial design students from five universities in Turkey. At the first stage of data collection, descriptive questionnaires were completed with 315 students to understand the overall level of participation in workshops. At the second stage, semi-structured interviews were conducted with 26 students who have a particular interest in workshops. The findings of this study show that students have various expectations from workshops in relation to their both educational and professional development.

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I am a Master's Student in the Department of Industrial Design at Middle East Technical University. I am working as a research assistant in the same department. For my master thesis, I am studying on industrial design students' motivations for participating in design related workshops as extracurricular activities and their expectations in relation to their educational and professional development.

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