

fighting fad with **SCIENCE**



THE STRICTO SENSU OF OUR ALUMNI

For some time, there has been a recurring concern of the Postgraduate Programs and Capes regarding the alumni profile and their introduction to the job market. Such concern with the training quality of masters and doctors is essential and it is the main goal of the system, which must consider the job opportunities for these graduates. One of the major concerns has been the *stricto* course of student training, with academic *sensu*, emphasizing the teaching performance to academia, an area that will hold quality priorities for its expansion.

It is worth highlighting some actions from Capes, which has been working from cautious management of opening new Programs and criteria to distinguish between Academic and Professional Programs, to a meticulous analysis of the Programs reports, requesting updated status from the alumni and Postgraduate Programs. In addition, the Programs were encouraged to conduct, or they are about to conduct, a self-analysis on education quality, modernizing their curricula, activities, and planning in an attempt to adjust themselves to the new scenarios of the job market. Such initiatives, if properly evaluated, should show the real picture, encouraging

objective action plans to guide on training the future masters and doctors.

Constructing such a diagnosis one must go through self-analysis based on a series of questions, such as: what sort of training are we offering to our graduates? Will the present curriculum activities and the humanistic training enable our graduates to what sort of job? Are the action plan, the curriculum activities and the research lines aligned and will they lead to adequate graduate training for the regional and Country needs? Where have been working and where our graduates will be prepared to work? Will our graduates be restricted to academic teaching or they are not, in fact, prepared to a different job? What is or will be the student profile required for non-academic jobs, such as industry and public administration, and qualified clinical performance? Are most of the Brazilian Postgraduate Programs acting in a similar

way and, therefore, graduating masters and doctors with same profile? There is a great chance that we are training our masters and doctors with *stricto sensu*! At this point, some of you might think the following: there are comprehensive and carefully composed national instructions, guidelines and policies to guide the system, encouraging the dynamics reappraisal of the Post-graduation and Research performance in this Country! Correct, in addition, our government funding

agencies (Capes, CNPq and FAPs) have done a lot with little available and, mostly because of their commitments along with the Universities, Brazil is building a commendable heritage in Post-graduation and Research, serving as international reference. Thus, if there is a system capable of self-evaluation, this is the Brazilian Post-graduation and Research system, because it has shown this for years. Yet, we all need to be willing and open to collaborate, participating with no private interests. This is a way we will have the chance to continue progressing with the quality and speed that modern society demands. There is no quality progress without adequate debate and collaboration.

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