

OVERVIEW

Along all its sections, issue 27 of *Calidad en la Educación* magazine addresses a wide range of pertinent subjects for postsecondary education, including analysis, research reports and book reviews, as well as information intended to inform readers about the work of education institutions.

The section called “Monográfico” is dedicated to technical higher education in Chile. This issue includes different aspects, such as the status of technical higher education within the higher education system, how it is related to technical-professional secondary education and to labor requirements, training based in competencies and problems related to employability. Different points of view are represented in the following articles: “Historia y perspectivas acerca de la educación técnica de nivel superior” (Higher level technical education: history and prospects), by Paulina Dittborn, a summary of what has happened to this education in light of political changes in Chile during the last two centuries; “Competencias laborales y de empleabilidad en la educación vocacional” (Labor competencies and employability in vocational education), by Braulio Fernández, giving another value to competencies for personal training after technical education graduation; “Educación y certificación de competencias laborales en el área audiovisual” (Education and labor competencies certification for audiovisual services Education), by Udo Jacobsen, a detailed analysis about this kind of training in Chile; and “El título técnico en el empleo público” (Technical degree in civil service), by Delfa Núñez.

In the international field, the text by Alberto Borges de Araújo, “Educación tecnológica para la industria brasileña” (Technical education for Brazilian industry), describes the context of technological education in Brazil, represented by undergraduate and graduate courses provided by the National Service of Industrial Learning (SENAI), aimed to professional qualification and very necessary for the industrial development in that country. As you can see, the magazine integrates diverse fields and educational contexts.

This time, the section called “Estudios” mainly informing about research supported by the Technical Secretary of the Higher Education Council, includes the following reports “Planeación estratégica en universidades del Consejo de Rectores: evidencias del periodo 2000-2005” (Strategic planning in chancellor council universities: evidence from 2000-2005 period), by Carlos Cáceres; “Desarrollo de habilidades básicas en lenguaje y matemáticas en egresados de pedagogía. Un estudio comparativo” (Developing basic skills in language and mathematics for students graduating from pedagogical studies: a comparative study), by Tito Larrondo among others; “Transferencia de la investigación educativa a la formación inicial de profesores” (Transferring research in education into initial teacher training), by Marcela Lara and collaborators and “Los periodistas recién titulados y el mercado laboral” (Recently graduated journalists and the labor market), by Manuel Délano among others. Moreover, this section brings an additional text named “Restricciones económicas en la decisión de continuar estudios superiores técnicos o profesionales” (Economical restrictions and the decision to undertake technical or professional higher education studies), by Luis Hernández and Ricardo Paredes, based in the development of a master thesis.

“Miscelánea” includes the article “Vínculos entre los modelos de financiación y la categorización de los sistemas de educación superior de América Latina” (The link between funding models and the classification of higher education systems in Latin America), written by Susana Fernández and Sara Fernández from Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain. They discuss the Higher Education

Systems (SES) financing models relative to different groups, in particular, Mexico, Chile, Bolivia, Costa Rica and Uruguay, in order to demonstrate if they are linked to the results of their classification. Results show that regardless the belonging group of the SES, the predominant financing model is the incremental one. María Soledad Zárate interprets the history of obstetrics in Chile in her article “De partera a matrona. Profesionalización de la Obstetricia en Chile en el siglo XIX” (From lay midwife to certified nurse-midwife: towards professional birth assistance in 19th. Century Chile).

Finally, you can find reviews about the texts “Educación superior en Iberoamérica. Informe 2007” (Higher education in Latin America. 2007 Report), Centro Interuniversitario de Desarrollo, CINDA, in hands of María José Lemaitre, and The Golden Age of University Assistance in the Americas, written by Ned Strong. As usual, the issue closes with a selection of undergraduate and graduate thesis, received books and issues from Chilean universities.

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