

## FOREWORD

The Editing Committee of the journal *Calidad en la Educación*, published by the Chilean Higher Council for Education, is pleased to present issue number 26. We are also pleased to inform our readers that the journal is now part of the Latindex Catalogue, an online regional information system for Spanish journals on science and technology published in Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal. The journal is also listed in CLASE, an online database that offers bibliographic information on social science journals from Latin America and the Caribbean. CLASE is an initiative of the University of Mexico (UNAM).

The Monograph section addresses problems related to diversity and access to higher education. The papers are a sample of current thinking on this subject, reflected in the multiple approaches proposed by the authors: “Study on Women University Teachers and Challenges in terms of Academic Advancement in Chile”; “Indigenous Peoples and Higher Education in Chile: The Case of The Mapuche”; “Inter-Individual Diversity as an Opportunity for Learning Among Higher Education Students”; and “Towards the Acceptance of Institutional Diversity in Accreditation Processes: The Role of Peer Evaluators”. The section has two international-level papers: “Virtually Intercultural: Higher Education in Bolivia” and “Higher Education Studies offered by German Institutions as part of International Cooperation Activities”, the latter contributed by the German Academic Exchange Program, DAAD.

The “Studies” section includes three research reports coordinated by the Technical Secretariat of the Higher Council for Education: “Facts that Account for University Drop-Outs” by Andrea Canales and Danae de los Ríos, “Socioeconomic Profile of Higher Education Students” by Víctor Cancino and Sebastián Donoso, and “Accreditation of Higher Education Study Plans and its Impact on Improved Academic Management” by Gabriela Navarro.

The current issue also includes the following studies: “Transferrable Credit System and Student Workload in CRUCH Universities” by professors Carlos Mujica and Juan Pablo Prieto, and “Academic Support in Higher Education: A Description of the Experience and Profile of Students who Participate In CARA UC”, by María Inés Susperreguy *et col.*, and “Looking through the Gaps of the Digital Divide in Higher Education” by Rodrigo Roco.

The Miscellaneous section includes articles on “Accreditation of Higher Education in the United States: The Opinion of the Courts” by Gonzalo Zapata, and “Tuning Training in Medicine to the Educational Proposals of European Convergence” by Christel Hanne.

“About the Journal ‘Calidad En La Educación’, published by the Chilean Higher Council for Education”, reproduces the speech delivered by Fernando Lolas, current adviser and former CSE Vice-President, at the ceremony celebrating the publication of our 25<sup>th</sup>. issue.

A new section has been added: “Reviews” reports on significant national and international publications on higher education, in addition to the usual information on books received in the period 2006-2007 and publications by Chilean universities in 2007.

In the next issue, another new section will be added for comments on articles published in our journal. We therefore invite our readers to participate actively by sending in their views. Those selected by the Editing Committee will be published in the new section. This is one step further in the consolidation of our publication. In addition to obtaining feedback on the contents of what we publish, we also wish to gradually help develop a community that exchanges views, in writing, on tertiary education in Chile and the world at large.

Multiplicity in terms of institutions, students and systems is a subject that cuts across the reality of higher education on a world-wide level. Increased educational coverage includes social sectors

which, in the past, lacked access to post-secondary education. This is still a budding reflection in Chile but we are certain that the articles included in this monograph will be an important contribution to a serious discussion of this issue.

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