**Heterogeneity within the constitution of the academic profession. A comparison among chemists and sociologists**

Leonardo Vaccarezza

**Abstract**

This paper analyzes the differences in some dimensions within the academic profession among chemistry and sociology researchers belonging to an Argentinean university. The “formality” of institutional involvement within the university environment is employed as a key concept to develop some indicators that shows a significant divergence among both disciplines. A discussion ensues addressed to determine if that divergence is related either to a difference among the degree of evolutive development within the same scheme of academic professionalization or to a disparity among the knowledge production pattern within each discipline. Previously, the conception of academic profession is discussed, considering that it is not stabilized and its liable to different meanings.

**KEYWORDS:** academic profession – university – disciplines

**Networks and flows of knowledge in Mexican aquaculture**

Rosalba Casas, Jorge Dettmer, Laura Celis, Claudia Hernández

**Abstract**

This work is part of a wider research project that’s aimed to analyze: 1) the impact that the generated and transferred knowledge towards the aquaculture sector has on the regional and local development; and 2) in which degree the interactive processes and the construction of networks have given place to the formation of a social capital based on knowledge for the aquaculture sector in the northwest of Mexico. The theoretical-conceptual approach of this research incorporates

**Keywords:** academic profession – university – disciplines
several ideas derived from four analytical frames: a) That of networks of knowledge; b) the approach of the social capital, c) that of the regional innovation systems and, d) related aspects to the idea of societies based on knowledge. By means of a methodological strategy based on cases of study, there are analyzed specific processes of generation and transference of scientific and technological knowledge in the aquaculture sector, when these are a result of interactions between diverse actors to regional and local level. Specially, there are identified the interactions that are a result of the collaboration between academic institutions that realize research (centers, institutes and institutions of higher education) and, between these academic institutions with other sectors of the society (government, productive social and private units).

*Keywords: Knowledge Networks – Regional Innovation Systems – Aquaculture in Mexico*

---

**The labor market for graduates and postgraduates in Mexico. The relationship among governmental agencies, higher education institutions and production system in Mexico**

**Leonardo Tenorio**

**Abstract**

The equilibrated functioning of the labor market for graduate students (from tertiary education) is crucial for the concrete realization of innovation and development activities. This study analyzes the trends, on the one hand, of the supply of graduate students by field of study and career and, on the other, of the demand of graduate students by state, in Mexico. It shows the existence of severe disequilibria in labor markets leading to the oversupply in some particular professions and unemployment of graduates. It also shows that the creation of a national system of innovation would be fundamental to absorb such unemployment. Finally, the study states that the
creation of a national system of innovation must be based on public policies adequately designed.

**Keywords:** Labor Market – Professionals – Postgraduated – Government, Educational and Productive Linkage – Mexico

---

**Notes for a Conceptual Agenda of Connectivity**

**Rodolfo Suárez Molnar**

**Abstract**

This paper presents some considerations on the specialist networks and communities of practice. The first part shows the relation between these initiatives and knowledge management, in order to establish the origin and purposes that are pursued by specialist networks. The second part presents the analysis and considerations on these strategies in three specific aspects: epistemological, methodological individualism, and public and institutional policies. In each one of these aspects, the paper only tries to indicate some problems and deficiencies in the strategies, in order to offer an overview of the discussions and analysis derived from them.

**Keywords:** Specialist Networks – Public Policies – Knowledge – Connectivity

---

**Towards the Construction of a Multicultural Knowledge Society Model: The Role of Indicators**

**Ricardo Sandoval**

**Abstract**

This paper discusses the set of indicators currently considered relevant and successful for measuring the level of transition of...
a society to the so called “knowledge society” by international organizations as well as a wide sector of the academic field. For that purpose, an analysis is made of the concept of knowledge society, and the set of indicators that are behind its definition. The diversity of situations and cultural contexts of cognitive production are considered, as well as techniques and potentially innovative knowledge that constitutes some societies that are frequently excluded in the measurements. Thus, the idea that a knowledge society founded upon multicultural spaces is constituted by the diversity of knowledge societies that conform it is defended.

Finally, the criteria to build a set of indicators of a multicultural knowledge society able to show the particular characteristics of the multicultural societies of knowledge, is proposed, without forgetting the international context so that they serve as a tool to help political decision-making in a multicultural country.

**Keywords:** Knowledge society – Indicators – Plural knowledge society – Regional contexts

---

**Appropriation of Knowledge:**

**Cultural Domination**

Mónica Gómez Salazar

**Abstract**

According to the WTO document “The protection of traditional knowledge and folklore”, one of the main reasons for international action to protect traditional knowledge is the economic benefit obtained from its use. This document sets out that traditional knowledge can be patented only when it is used as a basis for further innovations, there is an authorization for such use by those who have rights over that knowledge, and if they receive an adequate economic compensation. In this article we argue that goods are social constructions that people shapes according to the purposes, values and meanings of their own culture. In spite of the fact that traditional knowl-
ledge are social goods, commercial interests predominate over them, so they are readily converted into merchandise.

The aim of this article is to show first, that WTO criteria for appropriation and protection of traditional knowledge, rather than moving forward to justice conditions, it supports mercantile practices dominance over other social practices. Second, that the only ones who have legitimate right to decide on traditional knowledge are the communities who have generated and preserved it throughout history.

**Keywords:** Appropriation – Goods – Traditional Knowledge – Culture

---

**Networks and knowledge:**

**The role of aboriginal women in the creation of web sites**

*Carmen Gómez Mont*

**Abstract**

The main purpose for this research is to reach a first approach to information and communication social uses developed by indigenous women.

To develop this analysis we have established some starting points: a) to define the main characteristics of the indigenous traditional knowledge, where the woman plays a fundamental role in generating and transmitting it; b) to know more accurately the trajectory that the indigenous women have drawn up in their communities before the production of information and communication messages; c) to analyze by means of the selection of Web sites the way in which their knowledge is being transferred to digital formats and, finally, d) to understand the process of formation and integration of indigenous networks of knowledge having as main support the Internet uses.

What is the role played by indigenous women as creators and transmitters of traditional information? Does Internet contributes to strengthen its social integration? Does indigenous knowledge suffers some changes when it is transferred to digital formats?
From some questions that have been fundamental to guide this research, as well as having experienced a careful navigation in Web sites that are representative of their works, we have defined ten social uses to understand their main information and communication practices that conform this virtual universe.

**KEYWORDS:** Traditional Information – Indigenous Women – Internet – Sociology of the Uses

---

**THE RASHOMON SYNDROME, OR THE COMMUNICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN CONFLICT SITUATIONS**

**Mónica Lozano**

**Abstract**

In the 1950’s, Akira Kurosawa’s film *Rashomon*, pointed out that there is no single version of a story and that according to who is the storyteller, a story multiplies its meanings and interpretations. It seems that finally, there are so many stories as narratives.

*Rashomon* serves as a metaphor to explain some of the results of a currently developing research work that analyzes the role fulfilled by the representations of science and technology in social conflict situations.

Focusing on the dispute generated by aerial application of glyphosate on illegal crops in Colombia this analysis shows the existence of different representations of science in society. Moreover, it highlights how different actors involved in the conflict tries to persuade public about the legitimacy of their actions by using science and technology’s results, methods and processes and constructing different versions of the conflict. This situation raises a series of questions around the communication of science that are outlined in this paper.

**KEYWORDS:** Communication – Representation – Science & Technology – Social Conflict – Glyphosate – Illegal Crops – Colombia

---

**REDEs, vol. 13, n° 26, BUENOS AIRES, DICIEMBRE DE 2007, PP. 11-16**