

Workshop “Tracer Studies in
Central America:
Findings and their Relevance
for University
Strategies and Curriculum
Development”



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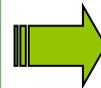
San José, Costa Rica, February 28th, and
March 1st., 2013



**Tracer Studies
for University
Developments –
the case of
UNAN-
Managua,
Nicaragua**

San José, Costa Rica, February 28th. and
March 1st., 2013.

In institutional evaluation context, the Graduates Trace Studies are very important for UNAN-Managua, because in the graduates' professional and personal performance they allow to determine the indicators closely linked to the university efficiency.



Rising institutional Consciousness of the strategic importance of Tracer Studies

Quality Assurance in the use of the information

1. It must be a priority for UNAN-Managua

2. Faculty body' Consciousness on the importance of asking the Graduates for improving university quality.

Information gathered from Graduates

3. How to use the results?
Interpretation.

4. To provide the society with arguments about the quality of the graduates professional performance.

The great beginning

UNAN-Managua began making follow-up studies of graduates in 2002.

German cooperation (DAAD-University of Kassel) convened CSUCA universities to participate in the First Training Workshop on Methodology of Tracer Studies and Employers Survey.

The place: City of San José, Costa Rica.
The date: May 13th to 22nd, 2002.

The Core of the Workshop

The joint construction
of a Central America
standardized
questionnaire



- A) College graduates' continuing education;
- B) Transition, job search and employment;
- C) Skills and employability, and
- D) Biographical Data.

First Tracer Studies (end of 2002):

Careers:

1. Public Administration
2. Nursery
3. Pedagogy

Tracer studies workshops at UNAN-
Managua begin: 2003.

1. Professors from:
2. the Faculty of Education
3. the Faculty of Medicine
4. the School of Nursery

Trained on Tracer study methodology

First Results:

1. 30 human resources trained
2. The Nicaragua questionnaire
3. The first 3 tracer studies (carried out during 2 years).

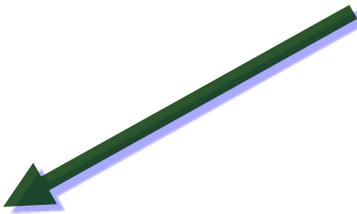
Institutional
Committee of
Graduates
Tracer Studies



UNAN-Managua
Alumni
Association?

**November
2005**

**The Committee of
GTS commanded
to create the
UNAN-Managua
Alumni
Association**



**The Institutional
Evaluation
Committee (CEI)
creates the
several
commissions
with the
assignment of
carrying out the
Institution
Improvement
Plan**

Other achievements regarding GTS at UNAN-Managua 1

- **The design of a General Plan of the GTS Committee, which includes a proposal of the development of TS to reinforce Institutional Self-evaluation (It needs to be approved by the University Board).**
- **A data base of the graduates from the years 2003 to 2012 (with the support of the Registrar Office);**
- **The design of a software (with the support of the Computing Science Department) which will permit to gather information of the graduates of UNAN-Managua of any period, on line.**

Other achievements:

- **The carry out of trace studies for graduates in many careers (some of them already finished and some of them in process);**
- **The creation of a CD with theoretical documents about trace studies for graduates and studies for employers, reports of studies and questionnaires. All these instruments from European, African, Asian, and Central American experiences.**
- **New workshops on Tracer Studies Methodology for other Faculty member (different careers, from 2005 to 2010).**

- **The planning of the first congress of Trace Studies for Graduates/Employers which was carried out by professors/researchers of Departments and Regional Campuses.**
- **Finally, the discussion of propossal of the first Congress of Alumni of UNAN-Managua, in order to follow the recommendations suggested from the internal evaluations to promote the improvement of the institution performance.**

The Centralameican Posgraduate Tracer Study

- Tracer Study for reinforcing the evaluation of 8 DAAD's regional Master Programs.
- The organization of a Centralamerican Academic Team to Carry out the task.
- Final Success and inputs for DAAD to take decisions about the future of the Programs.

Workshop on Trace Studies for Graduates/Employers

November 2008

- 32 participants:

CUR-Carazo

CUR-Matagalpa

CUR-Estelí

CUR-Chontales

Department of History

Medicine-Gineco-obstetrician

Department of Biology

The School of Spanish

- Improving of the Trace Studies Questionnaire.

Recommendations

- 1. Support from the Office of the Dean.**
- 2. To recognize the time devoted for researchers in conducting Tracer Studies.**
- 3. The Academic Secretaries and the Computing Center to allow the access to database of current students and graduates.**

Recommendations

- 1. The University Council must discuss the importance of these studies to officially approve the organic structure of Trace Studies and the allocation of an annual budget to be used in the Faculties, Departments, and Regional Campuses.**
- 2. To suggest the Dean and the Academic Directors to recognize the students' participation on these type of Trace Studies for their support in the field work, and for storing data, processing information, and the students' practicum.**

La Asociación de Ex – Alumnos de la UNAN-Managua

La ejecución de las actividades para la formación de la Asociación de Ex – Alumnos de la UNAN-Managua, va a requerir un fuerte componente de apoyo administrativo-financiero, sin lo cual, todos los objetivos y las buenas intenciones no podrán hacerse realidad.

Inmediate Activities of the Commission

1. To organize a meeting with the Graduates/Employers (This is the beginning of work in function to the creation of the Alumni Association of UNAN-Managua).
2. With the updated data base, to start the announcement by the media for the First Annual Meeting (The planning of the first meeting should be done (Sept 2007) which includes the slogan of the meeting, objectives, responsables, participants, date and place).
3. The Board of the UNAN-Managua Alumni Association must be organized in this first meeting.
4. In the prior meeting, the Alumni Association must organize and execute a contest to set the logo and motto.

¿How can the University Authorities Deans, Vice-Deans, Academic Secretaries Secretarios, Directors of Departments, Directors of CURs, otros) support effectively and successfully the tasks of the Commissions of TSG to fulfill the Institution Improvement Plan?



THANK YOU!

