
Geoscience Education Trends: A Point of View from the School of Earth Science, National Polytechnic Institute

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ABSTRACT

Geosciences are a fundamental part of our society; historically, they have been a mainstay for technological development and financial support for several countries, including Mexico.

A modern society depends on its natural resources and the ability to process them. Therefore, the discovery of new and rare resources that may not be so easily accessible requires the skills of geoscientists.

Geosciences education has given the adequate attention to these claims in the government and private business sectors.

However, we must consider that the categorization of future social problems, related to the research and study of earth sciences, should be resolved and applied immediately. In order to meet some important aspects of the social necessities within our country, the study of geosciences is being broken down into several different areas of specialty, pure and interdisciplinary: environmental geology and climate change; land sustainability; medical geology; and alternative sources of energy. These options complement the opportunities scholars and new generations have within the study of earth sciences. Nowadays, around the world, men and women are required to have higher standards of education to participate within their social context, and to be able to solve practical problems. In this context, basic education is needed to contribute the development of broad skills for living in a society that is increasingly complex.

In short term, it is necessary to induce individuals to become part of the research environment in geosciences within society, so they can be able to use the know-how for problem solving.