

A PRACTICAL PROCEDURE FOR PERMANENT UPDATING OF THE SYLLABUS IN GEOLOGY

VILCA, J.C.; KOSAKA, R. ; LAZO, M. Faculty of Geology, Universidad de San Agustín, Arequipa, Peru.

From a comparative analysis of the courses and their contents in the profession of geology with the specialties mentioned in the 31st International Geology Congress, our current courses can be grouped in four categories : 1) courses with a high equivalence with projected future increases , such as environmental geology: 2) courses without any equivalence with the geological specialties mentioned in the 31st IGC; 3) basic courses, such as petrology and 4) courses which are not taught, but which, owing to their importance, should be taught in order to assure the competitiveness of our future professionals. Critical cases of courses which, for one reason or another, have not been updated for many years are analyzed and options for a solution are proposed. The possibility that the exponential development of certain specialties at the present time may be only temporary is not overlooked, and the objective is an harmonious, integrated and sustained development in all geological specialties. It is proposed that the information presented in the international geology congresses be used as a reference in order to maintain the courses and their contents always up to date. The market for professionals in geology demands that their knowledge in geological specialties be directly related to the contents of courses which are taught at universities. Attempts are being made to widen the spectrum of applications of geology; work on the crystal chemistry of harmful substances in the human body is being carried out in collaboration with medical pathology specialists. It is proposed to explore interdisciplinary areas such as that mentioned in order to broaden the scope of the work of future geologists.