

THE ROLE OF THE PORTAL OF SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND THE QUALIS PROGRAM IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN CARTOGRAPHY IN BRAZIL

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The Coordination of Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), a Brazilian federal agency under the Ministry of Education (MEC), has as mission the expansion and consolidation of post-graduate programs (masters and doctorate) in all states of the federation. This agency is responsible for developing and maintaining, since 2006, of a public integrated system that brings together many scientific basis and numerous scientific publications that are made available, for free and through the World Wide Web, to all governmental higher education institutions and research centers of the country. Through such a system, CAPES has allowed the access of the academic community to thousands of national and international scientific publications in all areas of knowledge. CAPES, therefore, has contributed significantly to the existence of skilled personnel in quantity and quality sufficient to meet the needs of public and private organizations that have as main goal the country development. Thus, this study, in a first phase, intends to analyze the role of CAPES Portal of Scientific Journals for the development of the cartographic science in Brazil. This will be made by linking the national scientific production in the cartography field to the world's scientific production and by taking into consideration books and articles published in scientific journals that are made available through the referred Portal. CAPES is also responsible for a program of evaluation of national and international publications, called QUALIS, which comprises a set of procedures for the quality stratification of the Brazilian post-graduate programs and their intellectual production. This process was designed to meet the specific needs of the assessment system and is based on information supplied by the post-graduate programs through a web application called Data Collection. As a result, every three years a list is made available to the academic community with the classification of the vehicles used by the post-graduate programs for the dissemination of their scientific production. In this context, therefore, will be developed the second phase of this study, which aims to analyze the relationship between the international classification of scientific publications in the cartographic field that are made available through the CAPES Portal with the evaluation and classification results established by the QUALIS program. This analysis is of fundamental importance to understand the current state of the scientific research in cartography in the country and also to identify possible problems in the procedures adopted by CAPES to evaluate the national scientific production in this specific field of knowledge. The study methodology comprises the collection of scientific publications in cartography that are made available through the Portal; the collection of QUALIS evaluation results for the classification of these publications; the tabulation and classification of the data collected; and the subsequent result analyses. This study, although not yet finished, has already reached some results. One of them relates the discrepancy verified between the impact factors of scientific journals that are made available through the Portal for this field of knowledge with the resulting classification from the QUALIS program. This is a serious matter once the scientific production of the Brazilian academic community is based on this classification. Finally, it is noteworthy that the CAPES Portal and the QUALIS program are unique initiatives in the world. The Portal works as an integration tool whose role goes beyond of that offered by many institutional repositories currently available in the Internet.