

Review of: "Generic Competences in University Students from Barranquilla, Colombia"

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The paper is well-written, barring some grammatical inconsistencies, and is easy to read and follow. This work gives an interesting parallel between a localised study and that under the Tuning Project. It focuses on generic competencies, which are often overlooked compared to specific competencies in the curricula of universities, particularly in the more technical fields. The results are clearly presented and the discussion on the results is concise.

However, it is unclear what the background labour sectors are in which the graduated students are deployed. Hence possibly the deviation with the Tuning results. Also, in the more technical fields, the generic competency of "mathematical thinking and quantitative literacy", may be more important (as well as more developed). In certain work environments, "the ability to communicate in second language/English" would be highly important. Hence, the cohort, whilst large enough for an acceptable study, may be skewed in terms of the target labour market. At the same time, it corroborates the importance of "commitment to quality" as a generic competence / graduate attribute. At the same time, the ranking of the first 6 competencies, from "commitment to quality" to "capacity for teamwork", are considered as some of the most important graduate attributes in engineering students.

On "preservation of the environment" being ranked as unimportant, this is rather a reflection of the experience in the labour market, pointing to lower than required commitment of the industry to this aspect (and hence the corresponding under-development in the curricula, which are meant to be industry-responsive). This competency, as an example, will have different levels of importance depending on the country perspective.

Citations in abstract should be avoided, unless it refers to a major contribution/theory in the literature.

The Conclusions do not integrate the main outcomes of the research, and what implications these have, on the issues discussed. As well as future work or how this research can be extended. It seems to be disjointed from the actual research.