DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN THE FIRST 10 YEARS OF THE JOURNAL TERRÆ DIDÁTICA

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Abstract

Terræ Didática is a journal that collects scientific papers related to the teaching and history of Earth Sciences. Created by the Geosciences Institute of the State University of Campinas in 2005, the journal is primarily intended to Latin American countries. The objective of this study is to conduct a qualitative and quantitative analysis of articles published in that journal until December 2014 in order to identify trends in educational research and history of geosciences. To do this, it was necessary to read all 73 articles published until 2014. It was established a classification of articles by topic and research methodology, which improved during reading. In addition, it evaluated the bibliographical references used to check the use of international literature.

Key words: Terræ Didática, literature review, teaching and history of geosciences

Introduction

Terræ Didática is a journal of the Geosciences Institute of the State University of Campinas dedicated to research in teaching and history of Earth Sciences. The journal publishes one edition a year. Today each edition has three numbers. It is available in digital format in https://www.ige.unicamp.br/terraedidatica/, where you can download the articles in PDF. It is also available in printed, distributed to university libraries, government institutions and non-governmental organizations in the areas of geology, geography and environmental studies. It is also distributed to schools, professionals and students who request it. In addition to scientific articles, this journal gives space for news and description of events related to the teaching of Earth Sciences, trying to be a space for dialogue and dissemination for innovation and resources of high quality as well as for the dissemination of knowledge and improvement in Geoscientific Education. The character of the publication allows to include themed notebooks, as well as it enables that more than one number be published annually. This work reports the details of a research project, which aims to carry out a qualitative and quantitative analysis about the type of articles published in the first 10 years of Terræ Didática.

Results and Discussion

The development process of this scientific research was divided into four stages: (I) reading the articles published in Terræ Didática; (II) improvement of criteria for classification and analysis of the articles; (III) analysis of data obtained from the reading of texts; and (IV) the discussion of results.

Conclusions

The first part of the work allowed to read the material and, consequently, an improvement of the criteria for analysis and classification of the texts, as well as the choice of the methodology of statistical observations. In this first analysis was manifested the fact that in the journal were more focused research topics in teaching earth sciences directed to higher education, but with a trend in recent years for research in basic education.

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