Are Current Agricultural Educational Models Suitable to Meet Global Challenges?

José Zaglul, President of EARTH University

June 15, 2015
Geopolitical situation in Latin America in the 80’s

Poverty and hunger

War and violence

Environmental degradation
Atmospheric CO2 for May 2015
preliminary monthly average
Mauna Loa Observatory (Scripps data)
FRAGILE PLANET
Ethical Leader
Job creator
Technical and high-tech knowledge
Entrepreneur
Innovator
Environmentally and socially responsible
OUR MISSION

Prepare leaders with ethical values to contribute to sustainable development and to construct a prosperous and just society.

La Flor, Guanacaste

Guácimo, Limón
SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND COMMITMENT

TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

FORMATIVE AREAS

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT (ATTITUDES AND VALUES)
Scientific and technical knowledge
Research

- CIAT
- IITA
- Cummins
- SRI-Rice
- Whole Foods
- NASA and U of Alabama, LA U
Research

ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE HUMID TROPIES OF COSTA RICA

Edited by
Gael Massonnet
William J. Mitsch

Manejo ecológico y desarrollo sostenible en el Trópico Húmedo de Costa Rica
Carbon neutral campus
Carbon neutral verification and validation enti
ethical entrepreneurship
EARTH bananas rated by Whole Food Market as “Best”
Sense of social and environmental commitment and awareness
Values and attitudes
Prepared with much more than an education in traditional agriculture
overcoming challenges and developing an integrated curriculum
Unique process of student selection focuses on interviews by faculty (not so much on test results and selection).

70% of students receive full scholarships
• 90% work in their countries of origin.
• 92% working in relevant field.
• 23% have their own business or family business.
• 82% have a positive social impact.
• 80% have a positive environmental impact.

For each graduate = 4 jobs created
Today more than ever, EARTH's educational model is seen as a vehicle for transforming higher education in agriculture.
We must work together to discover a new way of teaching and thinking about the world in which we wish to live. We must cultivate a world where being a thinking, active, engaged citizen is not just a duty, but a right.
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EARTH graduates are innovating in their communities and nations.
Technology transforming agriculture
Center for Research and Development of Renewable Energies