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KEYNOTE LECTURE

ASSESSMENT OF THE BRAZILIAN POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS IN ENGINEERING: A TRANSITION TO A MULTIDIMENSIONAL MODEL

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Abstract. The lecture describes how the Brazilian Agency for Higher Education — CAPES — assesses the postgraduate programs in Aerospace, Mechanical, Industrial, Naval and Ocean Engineering. Over the past forty years, the comparative evaluation of the postgraduate programs has played a key role in promoting progress in both productivity and impact of the research (mostly) developed in the Brazilian universities. The analysis of the outcomes of the postgraduate programs, in the period from 2017 to 2020, is transitioning to a multidimensional approach, where innovation, knowledge transfer and impact on the society have been added to the classical model focused on the quantity of research publications and on the corresponding citation impact. Internationalization has turned into a key aspect of the assessment model, and an analysis of how the alumni perform professionally in the academy or in the industry was included. The new assessment model gives a higher priority to outcomes over processes and focuses on the best results rather than on the total research outputs.