



PORTFOLIO OF SERVICES 2008 – 2010

ASCOFAPSI is a private non-profit scholarly institution, whose mission is to ensure the improvement of university education of the psychologists in Colombia with the collaboration of its members to contribute to the scientific, professional, ethical and social development of Psychology

OUR SYMBOL

In Colombia, the butterfly has become the symbol of Psychology. Professor Aristobulo Perez explains the reasons: "The sign brings together both traditional meanings (in Greek mythology and contemporary). Before the Pre-Socratic Era, the word **Psig** meant "butterfly." In fact the letter Ψ (psi) is the stylized picture of a butterfly. Subsequently, Psig was used to mean "breath", "spirit" (soul). The Greeks believed that when a human died and exhaled his last breath, he abandoned his body spoils flying. "

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HISTORICAL MILESTONES

- **1947** Creation of the first program of Psychology at Universidad Nacional de Colombia (National University of Colombia).
- **1954** A group of students at the National University decided to form the University Federation of Psychology.
- **1983** Psychology is recognized as a profession in Colombia through Law 58 passed by Congress.
- **1983** Creation of the National Professional Psychology Board, as an auxiliary body of the National Government to control and monitor the exercise of Psychology in Colombia.
- **1983 -1987** The Federation begins to feel and discuss the need for the creation of an Association of Colleges, organized to lobby the National Board for the advancement of the Discipline and the Profession, with a unified voice from a political viewpoint.



- **1987** Preliminary discussions between Miguel Salas, Director of the Department of Psychology, University of the Andes, Rebeca Puche, Dean of Psychology at the Del Valle University and Graciela Aldana, Dean of Psychology at Javeriana University.
- **1988** First General Assembly of **ASCOFAPSI** at Javeriana University with deans and representatives of all the schools of psychology that existed at the time in Colombia.
- **1988** First Study on Formation of Psychologists in Colombia, which presents us with an analysis of the academic programs of the schools of psychology, with a view towards building a general characterization of their approaches to training.
- **1993** On April 12 1993, the Mayor of Bogota gives ASCOFAPSI legal recognition Number 156. On this date the first Charter of the Association is issued.
- **2005** The General Assembly of ASCOFAPSI issues a new Charter.
- **2006** The Congress of the Colombian Republic enacts into law Act 1090 which regulates the practice of the profession of Psychologist, dictates the Ethical Code of Conduct and other related issues.
- **2007** Approval in the Assembly of a group of Members of the Project for the Creation of the Observatory for Quality in Higher Education in Psychology.

MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

- **1993** "Current Status of Graduate Studies in Psychology and Plans for Development" under the auspices of the Catholic University and ICFES (Colombian National Institute for the Advancement of Higher Education).
- **1993** Release of the ASCOFAPSI Bulletin.
- **1994** First Encounter of Psychology Schools, at the National University of Colombia (Universidad Nacional de Colombia).
- **1997** Second Encounter of Psychology Schools, at the National University of Colombia (Universidad Nacional de Colombia).
- **1997 - 1999** Regional work hubs, regional publications of the Bulletin and design and implementation of the website.

CRITERIA FOR QUALITY IN EDUCATION

- **1993** ASCOFAPSI held talks and formed working groups with ICFES to discuss the minimum criteria to be met by any program in psychology.
- **1999 - 2001** Publication of the document "Requirements for the establishment and operation of an academic professional training program."
- **1999** Creation of **Colegio Colombiano de Psicólogos COLPSIC**, the Colombian Association of Psychologists.
- **2009** Presentation to the National Ministry of Education of the draft resolution which sets quality standards for the creation of training programs in Psychology.
- ASCOFAPSI has joined the effort by the National Accreditation Council to create a culture of commitment to excellence in the training of psychologists in Colombia.
- Accordingly, a major goal of ASCOFAPSI is to obtain accreditation of each of its member programs.

EXAMINATION OF QUALITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION -ECAES- IN PSYCHOLOGY (YEARS 2003 TO 2006)

- ASCOFAPSI was honored and faced a great challenge of national scope when selected by ICFES to coordinate the design process of testing for Quality Assessment in Higher Education in the Psychology Program.
- This process generated spaces for reflection and cooperation between all institutions training psychologists in the country.
- The means and strategies of cooperation were evident through the development of various regional workshops of reflection on the examination, the implementation of a Workshop on Assessment of Skills in partnership with the Catholic University of Colombia and the National Workshop for the development of the test.
- It developed the data bank of questions for examinations for the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 with the participation of teachers from different regions and psychology programs in the country. A "General Workshop" was held in the years 2003 and 2004 in the colonial town of Villa de Leyva.

2008

ICFES requested ASCOFAPSI to prepare the questions for ECAES 2009. ASCOFAPSI invited academics to participate in a workshop which undertook this task.

CURRENT PROJECTS

CATHEDRA OF COLOMBIAN PSYCHOLOGY - MERCEDES RODRIGO

http://www.ascofapsi.org.co/b_catedra.htm

- ASCOFAPSI in the General Assembly of 2005, approved the creation of the Cathedra of Colombian Psychology- Mercedes Rodrigo.
- The Cathedra has been held in the following institutions:
 - 2005 Universidad Nacional de Colombia
 - 2006 Universidad Santo Tomás
 - 2007 Universidad de Los Andes
 - 2008 Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Bogotá and Pontificia Universidad Javeriana – Cali
 - The cathedra of 2009 is being held in Universidad de Manizales and Universidad Católica Popular de Risaralda

MEETING OF INVESTIGATORS

http://www.ascofapsi.org.co/b_encuentro.htm

- 2005 Supported the networking of researchers through the auspices of the First Meeting of Researchers conducted at the *Universidad del Valle*.
- 2006 Second Meeting: Held at *Universidad del Magdalena*, in collaboration with *Universidad del Norte* and *Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar*.
- 2007 Third Meeting held at the *Universidad de la Sabana*.
- 2008 Fourth Meeting of Researchers conducted at the University of Manizales.
- 2010 The fifth meeting will be held at *Pontificia Universidad Javeriana* in Bogotá.

SUPPORT OF THE WORK OF THE NODES

http://www.ascofapsi.org.co/b_nodos.htm

- 2005 Nodes of researchers are formed during the First Meeting of Researchers.
- 2005 Networking:
 - Psychological Care Centers-ISUAP
 - Publishers of Journals of Psychology
 - Psychology Laboratories
- 2007 Approval of a call to support networks by which it has encouraged networking.

- 2008 Creation of a network of Professional Practice of Psychology - REPPSI
- 2008- 2009 Publications which appear are the result of work of the nodes:
 - Universidad de los Andes, edited the book "Keys to Think the Change. Essays on Developmental Psychology," which is published as a product of the node of Cognition and Development.
 - In conjunction with Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, the Psychology Laboratory Network published the book "The Laboratories of the Psyche: A History of Experimental Psychology in Colombia".
 - The Node of Organizational and Labor Psychology is in the process of publishing a book on Organizational and Labor Psychology with texts produced by members of the network of researchers in Organizational and Labor Psychology in Colombia, with support from the universities Santo Tomas, Valle and Javeriana Bogotá
 - The Node of Social Psychology and Review produced a text that is already written and is in the editing process.

INTERNACIONALIZATION

- Participation in:
 - The Latin American Union of Schools of Psychology ULAPSI .
 - Latin American Congress of Psychology and the meeting of deans of FIAP, Peru – 2008
 - Interamerican Congress of Psychology SIP, Guatemala – 2009.
 - ASCOFAPSI invites similar organizations in other countries to join efforts for the development of Academic Psychology.

VIRTUAL LIBRARY IN PSYCHOLOGY FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

<http://www.bvs-psi.org.co/php/index.php>

The Virtual Library in Psychology (BVS-PSI) of Colombia is a Project to enhance visibility and consultation of specialized information in Psychology, which has been developed through the joint efforts of the Universidad del Valle and, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Bogotá) as coordinating entities and with the backbone of ASCOFAPSI. Recognizing the trend marked by the VHL-PSI of Brazil, Colombia has taken this Library as a model and using the tools and methodologies offered by BIREME (PAHO Specialized Center, coordinator of Latin American and Caribbean System of Information in Health Sciences).

PURPOSE OF THE BVS-PSI COLOMBIA

Providing access to information in psychology efficiently and equitably, through the selection, organization and dissemination of information in a virtual expert space, offering opportunities to the psychologist and the researcher in psychology for the use of resources and quality services available online.

INTER COOPERATION PROJECTS

- Support to the **Colombian Association of Psychologists COLPSIC** through continuous interaction, in pursuit of strengthening professional discipline of psychology in Colombia.
- Support for several academic initiatives by member programs.
- Participation in the Colombian Association of Academic Programs in the Health field.

MEMBERSHIP FOR PROGRAMS OF PSYCHOLOGY

Schools of psychology that are accredited can apply for study in order to gain membership in ASCOFAPSI

CONSULTANCY IN THE PROCESS OF REGISTRATION OF QUALIFIED ACCREDITATION FOR THE PROGRAMS AND PSYCHOLOGY

ASCOFAPSI considers the qualified registration and accreditation of psychology programs as key factors in strengthening the quality of training of professionals. In this regard offers psychology programs its experience to advise and assist self-evaluation processes conducted towards self-regulation, accreditation and qualified registration.

DEVELOPMENT OF INTER-INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

It is in the interest of the Association to promote, support and participate in the formulation, management and evaluation of research projects in psychology and other areas of knowledge. From this perspective, ASCOFAPSI opens spaces to strengthen the ties of inter-institutional cooperation.

TRAINING PROGRAMS AND SEMINARS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES OF THE DISCIPLINE

- With the aim of providing alternatives for updating and continuous improvement for educational institutions, organizations and society in general,
- In agreement with its partners, ASCOFAPSI offers training programs and seminars on various topics related to the discipline.

INSTRUMENT DESIGN AND EVALUATION SYSTEMS

Given the significant contribution of Psychology in the field of measurement and evaluation, the Association offers its services in the design, validation, implementation and analysis of measurement instruments, tailored to the needs of government agencies, educational institutions and organizations.

OBSERVATORY OF QUALITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN PSYCHOLOGY

<http://www.ascofapsi.org.co/observatorio/index.htm>

Unit attached to ASCOFAPSI whose ultimate goal is the collection, organization and dissemination of reliable information concerning the processes of production and training in psychology in the country. It works with independence and autonomy from the training programs in psychology in Colombia.

The Observatory aims to collect this information to monitor details of the progress of psychology in Colombia, to identify the strengths and weaknesses of higher education and academic and research in psychology, and to facilitate the approach of policies and strategies for improvement the quality of education in psychology in Colombia

It has produced several studies available on the web portal

II NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PSYCHOLOGY AND COLPSIC FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS COLPSIC-ASCOFAPSI

<http://www.colpsic.info/congreso2/index.asp>

It will be held in 2009 in three locations: Bogota, Cartagena and Medellin, with the participation of speakers of national and international academic and professional renown.