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Author

MELGUIZO, Tatiana (WAINER, Jacques)

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Tatiana Melguizo ; Jacques Wainer

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Abstract

The main objective of this study was to work toward the development of a number of measures of student learning outcomes (SLOs) in higher education. Specifically, we used data from Exame Nacional de Desempenho dos Estudantes (ENADE), a college-exit examination developed and used in Brazil. The fact that Brazil administered the ENADE to both freshmen and senior students provided a unique opportunity to get a first approximation of the general and subject area knowledge gained in different programs. The results suggested that, on average, students in the three different categories of programs were gaining valuable general and subject area knowledge. The gains in the subject area were of a larger magnitude than those in the general knowledge component of the test. This study contributes to the field by providing empirical and visually compelling evidence related to SLOs gains in higher education. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)