

Experience of graduate students in Agricultural Microbiology at UFV in teaching to High School

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Experience in teaching on graduate programs is usually associated with undergraduate courses, which implies the lack of contact of graduate students with basic education. In order to provide experience with basic education for graduate students of the Agricultural Microbiology Program of the UFV (PPGMA), this abstract proposes a practical microbiology class for high school students. Twenty graduate students acted as teachers and monitors, preparing and teaching classes for 160 high school students of the Colégio de Aplicação da UFV (COLUNI) in 2016 and 2017. For the evaluation of the classes, a questionnaire with a Likert scale of 5 alternatives (very good, good, indifferent, bad and very bad) was applied to high school students and graduate students. In the first year, the class included a view of growth in solid medium and the morphology of bacteria and fungi under the microscope. In the second year, the class involved the preparation of slides, the evaluation of the morphology and the classification of the bacteria in Gram positive and Gram negative. A total of 99.2% (2016) and 92.1% (2017) of the high school students evaluated as very good and good the experience of the class with the graduate students. The presence of classroom monitors was evaluated as very good or good by 89% (2016) and 72.7% (2017) of the students. A total of 88.88% (2016) and 100% (2017) of the graduate students attribute to the experience with the high school as very good or good. Regarding the participation and interest of high school students during the class, 100% of the graduate students evaluated as good and or very good in the two years. The PPGMA and COLUNI partnership was considered very good by 100% (2016) and 81.82% (2017) of the graduate students. Contact of the high school students with graduate students aroused curiosity about research, which makes the classroom outside the conventional school environment more attractive. The experience with high school students, the students participation during the class and the PPGMA/COLUNI partnership were positively evaluated by the graduate students. The results suggest that a teaching experience of graduate students on the high school should be encouraged and improved to contribute to the training of professionals and to make of the university environment closer with the community.

Keywords: Basic education, graduate student, high school, microbiology, teaching.

Development Agency: CNPq, FAPEMIG and CAPES.