

AN ASSESSMENT OF CRITERIA TO EVALUATE THE
GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM IN BRAZIL

By

Maria Beatriz Moreira Luce

A DISSERTATION

Submitted to
Michigan State University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

College of Education
International and Comparative Education

1979

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF FIGURES	viii
Chapter	
I. INTRODUCTION	1
The Research Focus	3
Purpose and Method	5
Limitations	7
Procedures	8
Overview	9
II. LITERATURE REVIEW	11
Evaluation	12
Evaluation Defined	12
Evaluation Methodology	13
Evaluation Models	15
Evaluation Criteria	18
Academic Evaluation	21
Graduate Evaluation Criteria	23
III. RESEARCH PROCEDURES	48
Research Approach	49
Survey Design	50
Research Variables	51
The Development of Instruments	52
Designing the Questionnaire	53
Planning the Interviews	56
Pilot Tests	58
Selection of Subjects	60
Population	60
Sampling	62
Interviewees	63
Data-Collection Procedures	64
Soliciting Through the Questionnaire	64
Interviewing	65
Preparation of Survey Data	66
Organizing the Survey Data File	67

Chapter	Page
Methodological Difficulties	71
Data Analysis	73
Descriptive Analysis	74
Relational Analysis	75
IV. SURVEY RESULTS	77
Respondents' Characteristics	78
Academic Position	78
Academic Degrees	78
Professional Meetings	79
Publications	80
Perceptions of Change	80
Perceived Value of Research	81
Academic Activities--Actual and Ideal	81
Evaluation Criteria Assessment	82
Criterion One	83
Criterion Two	84
Criterion Three	85
Criterion Four	86
Criterion Five	87
Criterion Six	88
Criterion Seven	89
Criterion Eight	90
Criterion Nine	91
Criterion Ten	92
Criterion Eleven	93
Criterion Twelve	94
Criterion Thirteen	95
Criterion Fourteen	96
Criterion Fifteen	97
Exploring Relationships	98
Respondents and Rankings	98
Relationships Among Indicators	99
Overview	100
Important Criteria and Indicators	101
V. REVIEW AND PERSPECTIVE	104
Reviewing the Findings	104
The Respondents	105
The Evaluation Criteria	107
Integrative Summary	114
A Methodological Perspective	116

Chapter	Page
APPENDICES	121
A. QUESTIONNAIRE, LETTER TO COORDINATORS, LETTER TO THE SUBJECTS	122
B. CODING PLAN	141
C. QUESTIONNAIRES DELIVERED AND RETURNED	143
D. TABLES USED FOR QUESTIONS IN PART I OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE	145
BIBLIOGRAPHY	150

ABSTRACT

AN ASSESSMENT OF CRITERIA TO EVALUATE THE
GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM IN BRAZIL

By

Maria Beatriz Moreira Luce

This study sought to identify criteria adequate for the evaluation of graduate programs in Brazil. A survey was the means for collecting the ratings and rankings given by faculty members at selected Brazilian graduate programs. A questionnaire using Likert-type and ranking items asked the importance attributed by each respondent to each of the 109 items listed.

The data analysis reported in this dissertation indicates that the most highly rated criteria and indicators were: (1) Library: current periodicals; (2) Facilities: classrooms and laboratories; (3) Library: books and monographs; (4) Academic Environment: discussion, investigation, and expression; and (5) Facilities: research space and equipment.

The study presents the means and standard deviations obtained for each indicator and also includes some figures obtained for a relational analysis.

This dissertation was developed to provide useful information to educational planners, policy makers, administrators, and evaluators

involved in Brazilian higher education or comparative studies. It is suggested that additional investigations concentrate on more specific and in-depth analysis and interpretation of the policy-making processes, i.e., on the study of social facts or organizational and academic variables in their relationships with aspects of the educational system.

The appendices section includes a facsimile of the questionnaire and additional data.