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The paradigm of research universities linked to the emergence of university rankings has unified and universalized the criteria relating to the quality of higher education. This situation has led to multiple responses across global society, which has started rating the quality of higher education systems through these rankings, supported by a series of indicators aligned to the characteristics of research universities. Given that the quality of a country's higher education is one of the fundamental pillars of its development, many countries have started to take government action in this respect. In the case of Peru, the response has been quick, with law 30220 being approved in 2014. It aims to regulate the quality of higher education through a series of specific conditions. By using a Delphi panel, this study analyzes the existing relationship between the conditions set out in law 30220 and the research universities' intrinsic characteristics.

Keywords: Research University; rankings; Peru; higher education; law 30220.

helping students make better decisions and introducing a competitive aspect to the education and professional sector.

Through these conditions, the SUNEDU also aims to use this law to improve the position of Peruvian universities within the international rankings, which are led by research universities in which the characteristics intrinsic to these universities prevail. As a result, if the SUNEDU's law aims to improve the ranking of Peruvian universities, it is important that the stated conditions are aligned to the main characteristics of research universities.

In order to measure the conditions imposed by the SUNEDU with regards to the characteristics described for the research university, a Delphi panel was selected due to the lack of impartial information which could be supported by expert judgment (Varela-Ruiz et al., 2012). Once the Delphi panel was chosen as the main methodology for the study a group of experts was identified. This group of experts was made up of 10 members of the international academic community, from different universities across the United States, Spain, Peru, Chile and Argentina.

As an initial methodological step, an open question was asked relating to the aforementioned characteristics of the research university. As a second step, recommendations from experts were included and a second wave was sent in which the experts were asked to score the basic conditions required to define the quality of teaching in the SUNEDU's higher education with the research university's characteristics. For this stage, a scoring was proposed on a scale of 0 to 4, with 0 indicating a low correlation and 4 indicating a very high correlation. The aim was to identify which of the research university's characteristics related to each of the basic conditions imposed by the SUNEDU. The Delphi panel was completed with a third step in which the experts' responses were incorporated and subsequently scored.

The results of the Delphi panel were very similar given that, as anticipated, the basic conditions imposed by the SUNEDU are an integral part of each of the research universities' characteristics. The results obtained through the Delphi panel are shown in table 1

	Teaching					Research					Links with Society				
Conditions	0	1	2	3	4	0	1	2	3	4	0	1	2	3	4
Condition I	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Condition II	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Condition III	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Condition IV	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Condition V	0%	0%	0%	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Condition VI	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Condition VII	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Condition VIII	0%	0%	20%	60%	20%	20%	0%	0%	60%	20%	0%	0%	20%	60%	20%

In the table above, the “high” or “very high” responses (3 or 4) with a score of more than 50% are highlighted in yellow. Based on this data the aim is to observe which characteristics the SUNEDU’s different conditions have an impact on. The following table shows the characteristics of the research universities which the basic conditions have an impact on.

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