Tec's Dentistry program reaccredited for its educational quality



<u>Tecnológico de Monterrey's</u> <u>Dentistry and Dental Surgery</u> program celebrated its <u>reaccreditation</u> by <u>Consejo Nacional de Educación Odontológica, A.C.</u> (the National Council of Dental Education, CONAEDO) for its <u>educational quality</u>.

This is the second time that CONAEDO has granted accreditation to the Dentistry program for its merit as a program aligned with the principles of **equity**, **relevance**, **and educational quality**.

Six years after its first accreditation, CONAEDO verified that this program has efficient **projects** and **processes** that converge in the **training of professionals with high quality standards**.

"Excellence is shaped by the quality of our faculty, administration, and most importantly, the quality of our students," said Dr. Luis Alonso Herrera, National Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (EMCS).

"The **renewal process** is an essential part of **excellence** (...) It's a **social commitment** that's been taken on in the name of **educational quality**," said Dr. María Cristina Sifuentes, CONAEDO's Vice President of Accreditation.



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The reaccreditation ceremony was also attended by **Dr. Manuel Pérez**, Dean of the Monterrey and Chihuahua Schools of Medicine and Health Sciences, and **Dr. Fresia Paloma Hernández**, Academic Associate Dean.

Also in attendance were **Dr. Jorge Alberto Martínez**, Associate Director of the Monterrey and Chihuahua Divisions of Health Sciences, and **Dr. Ana Cecilia Sosa**, National Director of the Dentistry program.

"The reason for this event is to **recognize the commitment of the authorities to the continuous improvement of the educational program** in its objective of training professionals capable of preserving people's integral wellbeing," Sifuentes said.

Thus, the Vice President identified students and graduates' **broad and solid knowledge of Health Sciences**, with skills and abilities to diagnose, prevent, and treat diseases and illnesses with an **interdisciplinary approach**.

More specifically, she highlighted the program's use of innovative techniques and procedures, as well as the size of the groups and the academic peer counseling.

She also mentioned the program's **dissemination of institutional norms and regulations**, as well as the **faculty's participation in developing the learning units**.

The institutional program for **developing students' entrepreneurship and innovation competencies** was also mentioned as one of the merits, in addition to the work done to **promote actions** nationally and internationally.

"Tecnológico de Monterrey has declared excellence as **one of the objectives pursued at this institution**, and excellence is nothing more than always pursuing improvement," said the National Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.



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Today, the Dentistry program not only belongs to the **32% of the 165 programs** that have official registration but is also **one of the 16 programs** that have sought to maintain this position of excellence granted by the Council.

"It's about fulfilling the **Tec's mission to develop leaders** with certain attributes, with international capabilities, and with the ability to **add value to society within their professions**," Pérez said.

"It's also important to recognize the work of the administrative staff behind the operation of our School, ensuring that all processes are carried out in an orderly and transparent manner," said Herrera.

"The success we've achieved is the product, not of one person, but of **all those who make the quality of its processes possible day by day**," said Sifuentes in recognition of the students, professors, administrative staff, and directors of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

In addition, during the physical presentation of reaccreditation, the Vice President praised the **commitment of the institution and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences** to provide the Council with an **improvement plan for follow-up** during the upcoming years.



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While the directors recognized the importance that reaccreditation brings to both the dental program and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, they agreed that the path to constant improvement is a long-term vision for the Tec.

Although the Council received an improvement plan for proper follow-up, both Dr. Herrera and Dr. Pérez recognized that there are **improvement actions that arise on a day-to-day basis**, such as evaluation by outside parties or institutions.

Dr. Herrera also emphasized how being **evaluated by peers or third parties** provides the opportunity to **really identify achievements and areas of opportunity** that self-evaluation might not be able to see.

"Third-party evaluation is one of the most important moments that occur when people or institutions want toimplement improvements," the national dean said.

"There are **points for improvement that aren't so easily seen** and that only experts coming from outside can point out to us (...) and this is how we've always taken it, as it **helps us to implement a path to excellence**," he added.

At the end of the ceremony, Herrera invited the Council to follow closely the growth of both the Dentistry program and other **TecSalud units as they continue to evolve in the near future**.

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