

SERIES OF LECTURES. ASTROBIOLOGY: IN SEARCH OF THE ORIGIN, EVOLUTION AND DESTINY OF LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE

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In this series of lectures, experts will present a new scientific discipline that aims to investigate the origin, evolution and prospects of life in the Universe.

The aim is for attendees to learn about Astrobiology as a multidisciplinary research area that combines the efforts of disciplines such as biology, astronomy and chemistry, among others, including the participation of experts from the social sciences, whose task is to lay the foundations for a better understanding of the Universe.

The series has been carried out since 2016 in a face-to-face manner and since 2021 in virtual modality. It has been part of the educational offer of Continuing Education of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). In this activity, attendees have the opportunity to talk, raise doubts and points of view with scientists from different universities, on the issues raised in the series, which is structured with a theme that allows to know the beginnings, development and implications of Astrobiology in the scientific work.

The series of lectures consists of 12 talks of two hours of duration. The time is distributed between the presentation and questions or comments. Given the interest of the attendees in this activity, it is of utmost importance to know their perception regarding the clarity and level of development presented by the speakers, as well as the understanding of the topics. To achieve this, a questionnaire is applied among the participants. On the other hand, the organization of this activity is also evaluated, as well as other items that are considered relevant for its realization.

The profile of the attendees was obtained from a sample of 16 responses from a total of 20 participants. As this was the first time that the event was organized by videoconferencing, it allowed us to reach the public from the interior of Mexico. We inquired about the expectations of the attendees regarding the presence of the speakers, the knowledge that could be acquired and the development of the

subject matter. The evaluation was answered by 14 out of 20 attendees.

From the results obtained during this evaluation, it was observed that both the clarity and the level of the talks were adequate for the purposes of the series of lectures, as well as the understanding of the topics. It is worth mentioning the contribution of the series of lectures to reinforce knowledge and respond to issues developed during it, as well as the motivation it generated in the group to go deeper into the topics covered. Regarding the organization, development and content of the series of lectures, the results were positive, which is an indicator that it is possible to maintain its organizational and academic structure.

A space was opened for comments and suggestions, where the following was expressed:

- Satisfaction for participating in the series of lectures.
- Motivation to organize more events like this one.
- Highlighted the presence of researchers of high academic level.
- Valuation of the series of lectures as a space to access a set of knowledge that otherwise would not have the opportunity.
- Although it is not the objective of this activity, scientific vocations are created among the attending students either to give a focus or to define their studies.
- Preference is expressed for attending the series of lectures in person.
- Greater diffusion of the event is suggested.

There is a lot of work to be done for the continuous improvement of this activity, but the results obtained were satisfactory.

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