

## **Indicators and Achievement**

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Research assessment occupies significant time from faculty, researchers, students and administrators, creating great and often damaging tension. I will discuss the following related questions:

- 1) Are the objectives and targets of the researcher and the overall research system clear to everyone involved?
- 2) How strong is the connection between scientific achievement and S&T indicators?
- 3) Why are we using the amount of money granted to a project as a measure of its scientific status?
- 4) How beneficial to science and scientists is the participation in the political game?
- 5) Fuel ethanol is the outcome of a large scientific and technological effort made in Brazil for more than thirty years and it has been producing wealth and prestige. However, impact indicators for research efforts in this area are modest. Is there a lesson to be learned?