

Educating the Next Generation of Plant Scientists

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The widespread application of Plant Sciences in the corporate sector is determining a rapid change on the way we see education in these fields. An increasingly proportion of these scientists will eventually find jobs outside the more traditional academic environment, finding challenges on their careers for which the prevalent educational model might not have prepared them. Also, an increasing proportion of scientists will find opportunities outside the US or on projects with a high level of international and intercultural interactions. Hence, education has to adapt to these realities, by providing new training opportunities and/or by reallocating already existing resources. I would like to discuss some of these challenges and opportunities, and present some examples of possible collaboration between academia and the private sector to evolve on the education of the plant sciences to face these realities.