

Astrobiology in Mexico: The Mexican Society of Astrobiology (SOMA)

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WHAT IS SOMA AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

1 The Mexican Astrobiology Society, SOMA (Sociedad Mexicana de Astrobiología) is a non-profit, self-sustained organization that joins a multidisciplinary group of scientists, professionals and students interested in promoting the knowledge and progress of Astrobiology.

2 We are particularly interested in motivating young students to initiate a scientific career in Astrobiology topics, and to promote national and international links with organizations dedicated to Astrobiology. Thus, SOMA has established collaborative academic links with national and international organisms dedicated to Astrobiology and compatible fields:

INTERNATIONAL



NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS



3 SOMA members enthusiastically participate in the organization of:

1. Biannual scientific meeting (Seven conferences since 2001).
2. Electronic publication of a bimonthly bulletin (Year 3, number 35).
3. Annual Astrobiology course and workshop for teachers and students.
4. Seminars, talks and interviews for our members, the academic community and general public.

SOMA EXECUTIVE BOARD (2011-2013)

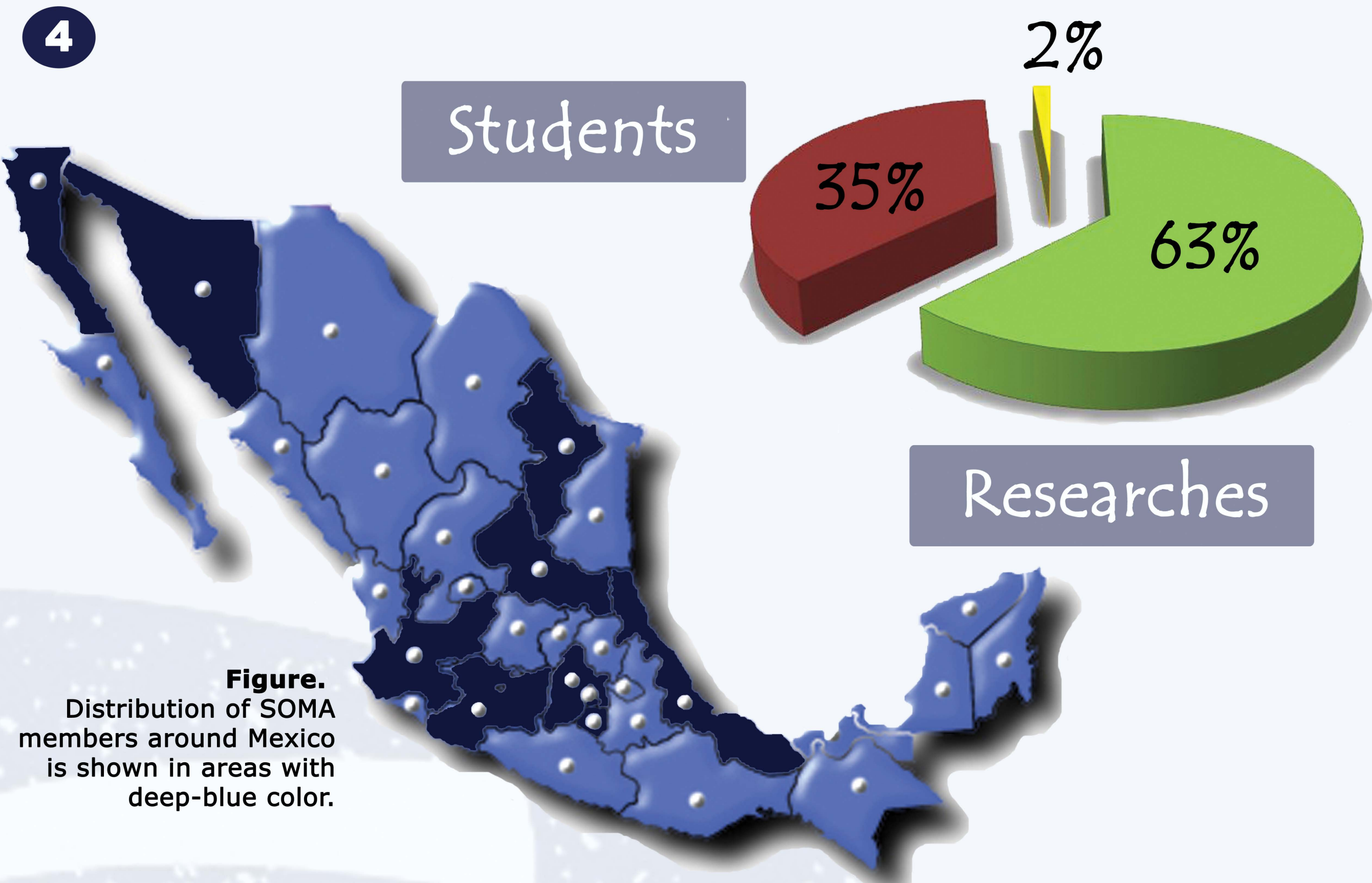
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RECENT ACTIVITIES

- 1) First Mexican School of Astrobiology** (13th-15th June, 2011)
- 2) Colloquium: The Virtual Planetary Laboratory and The Search for Habitable Planets** (13th June, 2011)
Dra. Victoria Meadows, The Virtual Planetary Laboratory
- 3) Roundtable: Geophysics and biology of hydrothermal vents** (23th May, 2011)
- 4) VII Meeting of SOMA** (18th-20th August, 2011)
- 5) II Workshop in Astrobiology and its development in Mexico** (21th-25th June, 2010).
Topics:
- Introduction to Astrobiology
- The universe
- Planetary systems
- Earth as a habitable planet
- Habitable planets in our Solar system
- Search of habitable exoplanets
- 6) Seminars: About starts, planets, life and other curiosities** (March-August, 2009)
- 7) Seminars: Colonization of Mars** (1st March, 2009)
Dr. Rafael Navarro González, ICN UNAM
Dr. Christopher McKay, NASA Ames Research Center
Dra. Margarita Marinova, CALTECH
Dr. Fred A. Rainey, Louisiana State University

MEMBERS



SOMA includes up to 60 members around Mexico including scientists, educational and outreach specialists, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as journalists.

- 5** Research interests of SOMA members:
- Prebiotic Chemistry and Origin of Life, Evolution of Life on Earth, Complex systems (self-organization, evolution), Life in extreme environments, Geological evolution of Earth and other planets, Planetary atmospheres, Planet formation, Planetary migration, Dynamical evolution of planetary systems, Meteoritic impacts, Detection of exoplanets, Mars and Martian analogs, Chemical evolution of the Universe and the Solar System, Stellar and galactic habitable zones, Biosignatures and biomarkers for life detection, Instrumentation development for life detection, Space medicine, Inverse panspermia.

ASTROBIOLOGÍA

18 y 19 de AGOSTO, 2010

Auditorio: "TLAYOLTL" del Instituto de Geofísica, UNAM

Excursión a Tepexi de Rodríguez, Puebla 20 de AGOSTO

Información de la Reunión, inscripción y envío de resúmenes en: <http://www.nucleares.unam.mx/~soma/occe/>

Registro de asistentes: 3 de ABRIL al 16 de AGOSTO

Envío de resúmenes: 3 de ABRIL al 26 de JULIO

Contacto sobre el evento: e-mail: soma@nucleares.unam.mx <http://www.nucleares.unam.mx/~soma>