Abstract

In this essay I present part of Georges M. Engerrand biography as an example of a politically engaged scientist who had high expectations about working in a "new" and more liberal context than his native Europe. He was not the only European émigré disappointed with the scientific and political conditions he encountered in the "new" continent. His life in Mexico and the United States illustrates the tensions between a belief in a scientific universalism and the particular political and academic borderlines separating two anthropologies - the national and the metropolitan - along with their respective scientific communities.

Keywords

History of science, scientific migration, Georges M. Engerrand, national and metropolitan anthropologies.