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Editorial of the twenty first edition of Ambiente & Água - An Interdisciplinary Journal of Applied Science

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ABSTRACT

This issue marks the 21st edition of Ambiente & Água. This edition has included 20 peer evaluated and reviewed articles, and all editions were published on time. We continue to employ a policy of complete open access, and to foster the visibility of articles. We continue to register the doi of all articles and to publish each issue as a single document in addition to the individual articles. This editorial emphasizes new important recognition received by the Ambiente & Água journal.

Keywords: Ambi-Água, Environment, Water Resources, Qualis CAPES, SCOPUS.

Editorial da vigésima primeira edição da revista Ambiente & Água - An Interdisciplinary Journal of Applied Science

RESUMO

Estamos publicando a 21^a edição com 20 artigos avaliados e revisados por pares e, desde a primeira edição publicada, todas as edições foram publicadas, no prazo previsto. Continuamos a praticar a política de acesso completamente aberto e a promover continuamente a visibilidade dos artigos. Continuamos a registrar o doi para todos os artigos e a disponibilizar cada edição inteira em um único arquivo, além dos artigos individuais. Esse editorial enfatiza reconhecimentos recentes que a revista Ambiente & Água recebeu.

Palavras-chave: Ambi-Água, Meio Ambiente, Recursos Hídricos, Métricas de Citação da Google.

1. INTRODUCTION

“Scopus Title Evaluation Support” announced on January 3rd, 2013 that Ambiente & Água journal has been evaluated for inclusion in Scopus by the Content Selection & Advisory Board (CSAB). The review is now complete and the CSAB has advised that the title be accepted for inclusion in Scopus.

Scopus is owned by Elsevier B.V. and Elsevier is solely responsible for the content selection policy. In deciding whether to accept or reject a title for Scopus, Elsevier follows the independent recommendation of the Scopus Content Selection & Advisory Board (CSAB).

This is an important achievement for Ambi-Água, and it instills in us a determination to work hard to attract more papers that go beyond descriptive science. As a first measure to

strive for quality improvement, we contracted an American with a background in English language study to improve the quality of our English texts. English-language submissions will have priority in our editorial analysis.

A title to be included in Scopus must be submitted to The Scopus Title Evaluation Platform (STEP), which uses both quantitative and qualitative criteria grouped in five main categories: Journal Policy, Content, Number of Cites, Regularity and Online Availability. Specifically, the following aspects are considered: convincing editorial policy; diversity in geographical distribution of editors; diversity in geographical distribution of authors; type of peer-review; cited references in roman script; English language abstracts; academic contribution to the field; clarity of abstracts; conformity with the journal's stated aims and scope; readability of articles; number of cites of journal articles in Scopus; editorial standing; regularity of on-time publication; availability of online publication; availability of English language journal home page; quality of journal home page.

As of December 2010, Brazil had 21,900 ISSN registered and only 220 journals effectively in the Scopus (Packer, 2011). Although the number of Brazilian journals has recently increased, the total number is still small when compared to other scientifically productive countries.

Another important recognition of the *Ambi-Água* journal has come from the Qualis CAPES, which is the most important reference for scientific journals related to the Graduate Programs in Brazil. We are now rated in 13 different areas of CAPES (<http://www.ambi-agua.net/splash-seer/?access=qualis-capes>). But more importantly, *Ambi-Água* is now included in the **B2** stratum by CAPES' Environmental and Multidisciplinary committees.

We continue to seek additional recognition, and our next goal is to be accepted for inclusion in the SciELO base. To that end, on February 22nd, 2013 we received the following message from the evaluation team: "The *Ambiente & Água* journal has been approved on the first step of selection and evaluation process of journals for the SciELO Brasil Collection and, therefore, has been submitted to scientific merit analysis by three experts of its related thematic area".

2. FINAL REMARKS

We wish to offer our sincere gratitude to our peer reviewers for the dedicated and voluntary work that has been key to improving the quality of published articles. We continue to value submissions that maintain high standards, that go beyond descriptive case studies and that promote the advancement of science in the environmental and water resources science.

Potential authors should be aware that guidelines are currently undergoing revision in order to further improve the quality of the journal.

From January 1st, 2007 to March 31st our journal was consulted 124,814 times, 100,334 from Brazil, 2,825 from US, 2,463 from Mexico, 2,105 from Portugal, 1,980 from India, 1,220 from Colombia, 850 from China, 829 from Spain, and so on, for a total of 162 countries.

3. REFERENCE

PACKER, A. L. Os periódicos brasileiros e a comunicação da pesquisa nacional. **Rev. USP[online]**. 2011, n.89, pp. 26-61. ISSN 0103-9989.