SISTEMAS DE INFORMAÇÃO

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Editorial

Our journal arrives at its 12th issue, the second since we were included in the QUALIS list. I am happy to say that the number of articles submitted this year was more than twice the number submitted in 2012. Since we strive to be a high quality journal, the number of papers published has not doubled for we kept our standards and a high rejection rate.

This fact can be explained by referring to an article published in this issue. As editor, I gave myself the happy task of reviewing the recently published book by Professor Gilson Volpato which is called "Science: from the philosophical basis to publication". Unfortunately, this book was published exclusively in Portuguese, which will make it inaccessible for most of our readers, but I will describe here briefly some of its main ideas concerning scientific journals.

In his book, Professor Volpato creates a simple definition for an international journal: it publishes articles in English from many countries and is read by researchers from many countries. I am happy to inform our readers that based on this criterion, we are an international journal. According to the tracking system we use, as of December 4th, our site has received over 26,000 hits (which do not include those that access our papers directly), 74,5% of which came from Brazil, and 25,5% (over 6,600 hits), from 114 other countries, mainly USA, India, China, Portugal, Canada and Spain.

The second criterion defined in this book is that journals should be known and referenced in international forums. We have a few articles that received citations. Professor Wazlawick's paper from 2010 received 6 citations, Professor Sampaio's paper from 2010 received 5 citations, my paper on classification techniques from 2009 and Professor Volpato from 2011 both received 4 and Professor Westphal's paper from 2011 received two citations, one from China, according to Google Scholar. This indicates that we have room for improvement, but researchers are paying attention to what is written in this journal.

One of the efforts we are pursuing in this direction is to include our journal in the main scientific indices. This semester we were able to include all our issues in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), which allows for great visibility and searchability. We are striving to include this journal in more indices and expect that with the increased visibility will also come more citations.

According to Professor Volpato, one of the ways scientific reviewers and editors can help improve science is to perform detailed reviews and foster the author development, guiding him in the way to achieve a better scientific work (and, consequently, a better paper).

This is the area where we excel. All submitted papers were reviewed by two or three reviewers in double blind formats. All reviewers were PhDs and the average review time was close to 60 days.

Besides, a strong communication was performed between authors and reviewers. Papers published in this issue passed through an average of 2.8 iterations before being considered ready for publication. This means that the scientific work was judged by strict criteria and authors worked really hard to improve their work in order to offer you, our readers, a work of high quality that might cause positive scientific impact.

We know that there is still a long journey ahead of us. After all, we are relatively young (our journal is only five years old) and not naïve: we know there are a lot of improvements we can make and lots of more knowledgeable people we can learn from. Nevertheless, we are our harshest judges and we are always asking ourselves what we can do better and how we can positively impact both Brazilian and World science. Hence, I am pretty sure that we are in our way to excellence and I personally invite you, our readers, to become part of this journey, by submitting articles to our next issues. I hope we can all work together towards a better Computer Science and a better world.