

## Editorial

All good things come to an end. This may be a platitude, but nevertheless, it is quite true. And so has it been that my tenure as editor in chief of this journal will come to an end after this edition. So, you will indulge me in reminiscing a little bit about the way we have walked together.

In 2008, Professor Miriam Santos saw something in me that even I had not recognized. Obviously, I had already published and reviewed a few papers, but I had never thought of being an editor and had no idea of the requirements of the job. Nevertheless, she put her faith in me and with her support, and that from the wonderful and wise Sister Maria Lea Ramos, I overcame my apprehensions and took the job.

The beginning was quite rough and that is shown in the first editions I helped publish. They are quite raw and lack the “je ne sais quoi” that creates the aura of scientific credibility. Yes, the papers were good, but the journal was not establishing itself as a scientific brand. Even though I was very green between the ears, I could easily recognize the rocky road we were walking on.

At this moment, I received the help from many different people. Reviewers complained about the process and gave suggestions on how to improve it, authors gave their impressions on the editing process and even other editors were so kind as to allow me to pick their brains to understand how the whole editing could be improved. I will not say their names, because many of them talked in confidence and others, such as the reviewers, participated under the condition of anonymity. Nevertheless, I must say that it took a village to come to the results you see today, and I am very grateful to all those who helped me along the way.

In the end, we achieved something that I consider wonderful, even wondrous, if we consider that our university is a small institution from the Brazilian hinterlands. Our journal has received over 50.000 unique hits and out of the 130 or so papers that we published, almost 30 received a least one citation, while 10 of them (almost 10% of the total) were referenced at least 10 times. That is made even more admirable if you take into consideration that many of those papers were written in Portuguese<sup>1</sup>.

Our quality was also recognized institutionally. The Sucupira index, which is compiled by the government

run CAPES institution, gave us a B4 rating in the end of 2022 (an improvement from the B5 index that we received in the first run of evaluation after this journal was created). This clearly means that we were in the right path, both under the scientific and the bureaucratic criteria.

Obviously, it was not always a bed of roses. There were rough patches, during which we had fewer articles submitted. During those bad stints, I ran to the wonderful friends I made along the way and asked them to submit their high-level research in our humble journal. They all complied and the fact that such prominent researchers considered us a worthy journal rose our profile once again and reopened the proverbial faucets, allowing us to keep being selective and thorough in our processes.

That is only one example of the kindness I found along these 15 years and for me, it is a clear depiction of the greatest gift I earned in this job: the friends. The authors and reviewers were always kind and appreciative and I must say that coming to know each one of them was the best thing that came with the job. There are even some who became good friends, teasing me about my soccer team or going out for a drink occasionally, but all of them showed themselves as the worthiest colleagues I could have found.

I hope that you will appreciate this issue as much as I do, for, in the end, this is the legacy I want to leave behind: that of a serious and deep journal committed to scientific knowledge and to the betterment of the world.

Thank you very much for sharing this long road with me and I hope we will meet again soon.

  
Editor in chief

<sup>1</sup> The data was manually extracted from the site [https://scholar.google.com/scholar?start=40&q=revista+de+sistemas+de+informa%C3%A7%C3%A3o+da+FSMA&hl=pt-BR&as\\_sdt=0,5](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?start=40&q=revista+de+sistemas+de+informa%C3%A7%C3%A3o+da+FSMA&hl=pt-BR&as_sdt=0,5) (access in July, 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023)