

Editorial

Dear BAR Readers,

BAR has good news for Authors and Readers.

I am very happy to announce that, as a way to make knowledge public as soon as possible, BAR has adopted the “ahead of print” feature. As such, articles can become available for reading and downloading before they are officially published. Please check: http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_issuetoc&pid=1807-769220120050&lng=en&nrm=iso

BAR has also been able to speed up the review and publishing process, without losing rigor. Reviewers have been turning in their reviews in a timelier manner and Authors have also been responding accordingly. The result is that the average time for Authors to be informed about whether their manuscript has passed the desk review stage is now just one month. Additionally, the average time lag between submission and end of blind review has been reduced to 7.5 months and the time lag between submission and publication has dropped to just about one year.

Now, let’s turn to the six good pieces of research featured in the present issue.

The first paper (Auditing Government-nonprofit Relations in the Brazilian Post-reformist Context; by Alketa Peci, Luciano Quintella and Ricardo Lopes Cardoso) analyzes the control of government-nonprofit relations, under the perspective of the Theory of the Audit Explosion (TEA) and investigates if there is a causal relationship between the growth of government-nonprofit relations and the audit explosion in the Brazilian context. The conclusions highlight the limitations of the explanatory capacity of TEA in Brazil.

Next, we have an article (Human Resources Management Policies and Practices Scale (HRMPPS): Exploratory and Confirmatory Factor Analysis; by Gisela Demo, Elaine Neiva, Iara Nunes, and Kesia Rozzett) that brings a relevant methodological contribution: validation of a scientific instrument to measure employees’ perceptions about policies and practices of Human Resources Management (HRM).

The third paper (Accrual Anomaly in the Brazilian Capital Market; by César Cupertino, Antônio Martinez, and Newton da Costa Jr.) brings evidence that that the accrual component is not mispriced by the Brazilian market, and that a trading strategy based on the accruals component of earnings does not provide consistently positive returns, and therefore doesn’t encourage arbitrage.

The next article (Demand for Life Annuities: A Brazilian Perspective; by Thalita Vaz, Sérgio Machado, and Adriana Bortoluzzo) investigates pension plans and in particular life annuities. Findings suggest that two factors — the volume of accumulated reserves and the classification of prices as actuarially fair — increase an individual’s propensity to convert resources upon retirement; in turn, retirement age and the need for liquidity reduce the propensity to convert resources upon retirement.

The fifth paper (Hope, Perceived Financial Risk and Propensity for Indebtedness; by Lucia Barros, and Delane Botelho) explores the relationships among hope, risk perception related to purchasing, and consumption and propensity for indebtedness. Results indicate that higher levels of hope are associated with an increase in the propensity to accept the mortgage loan, independent of actual risks, and with an increase in the propensity of college students to become indebted to pay for their studies. However, results regarding the relationship between hope and risk perception were contradictory.

The last article in this issue (The Role of Interpretation in the Internationalization of Smaller Brazilian Firms; by Rene Seifert, John Child and Suzana B. Rodrigues) analyses how decision-makers in smaller firms interpret the means and conditions of internationalization, and how different modes of interpretation are likely to inform action choices in this process. Results support the contention that different understandings given to the means/conditions of internationalization are associated with different action choices.

All best wishes,

Jorge Carneiro
Editor-in-Chief