

In the first issue of each year, *RAE* outlines a balance of its activities for the previous year in the “Editorial Information” section. Complete data are included at the end of this issue but here some of the figures shown in the balance sheet are highlighted with the aim of making clear how our editorial procedure has evolved and also to give information about the scheme for greater internationalization that we currently pursue.

The increase in the number of articles submitted in 2012 was only 2.5% compared with 2011, reaching a total of 584 submissions. This modest increase shows signs that we should not expect an avalanche of submissions in the next few years. Moreover, it was surprising to note that, as in previous years, 50% of these articles were rejected in the format used for the screening process, which suggests that a considerable number of authors are still not used to reading the editorial guidelines before making their submission.

Our desk review approval ratings are also very strict: only 43% of the articles showed the minimum standard necessary at this initial stage of evaluation, even less than the 49% approval rate for the same stage in 2011. Of the articles that were recommended to be assessed by the members of the Scientific Editorial Board, 34% were also rejected, a figure very close to the 36% of 2011.

All this suggests that, of the 600 articles or so that were submitted to the editorial board, only 5% managed to reach the *double blind review* system for evaluation by the reviewers responsible for expressing deeper opinions about the articles and which allows us to ensure that they can go beyond this stage and be able to receive more in-depth comments. Of these, 40% are still unable to be approved for publication.

Although candidates have to undergo a strict standards-based assessment when they pass through our processing system, we make every effort to carry it out as speedily as possible. The average time for the approval of 45 articles that were published in 2012, was 216 days, 4% more quickly than the average of 226 days in 2011. In the time when the articles were being assessed (just over 7 months), more than half of it (3.6 months) was spent on the analysis of the articles by the two assessors appointed.

The scientific editors spent 33.2 days on giving their initial opinion and 25.7 days in re-evaluating the new versions of the articles after they had been improved by the authors. Those, who were concerned about having their articles published, spent, on average, 21.4 days working on the alterations requested by the editorial staff and reviewers.

The good news for the authors is that the average time we spent on conducting the desk review improved a good deal and in 2012, was only 5.7 days. When this is all added up, the time spent by an article is passing through the internal procedures of *RAE* is less than 10% of the whole time needed for it to be processed by the editorial staff. As well as this, we can count on the constant improvement in the standard of the reviews and the judgements of the editors and reviewers. A panel is devoted to them on page 115, as a tribute to those who have most contributed to improving the *RAE* procedures, both in the speed and quality of their expressed judgements.

With regard to the process of internationalization, *RAE* has also kept up a good rhythm, particularly after we began to be published in the list of periodicals with JCR. In 2012, 8% of the spontaneous submissions were from authors affiliated to international institutions. The Spanish authors particularly stand out and already represent about 30% of these international submissions. The expectation is that these figures will rise even more if it is taken into account that the numbers of people accessing the *site* from outside the country has not stopped growing.

According to data supplied by Google Analytics, those making access from the US, Spain, Mexico and Colombia are growing most, but this does not include the numbers of researchers who are apparently entering the radar screen from India, China and Germany. We expect that in 2013, with new funding predicted for the *site* and the requests for ongoing international studies, that *RAE* can become consolidated as a journal that is being represented far beyond the borders of Brazil.

In the first issue of *RAE* in 2013, we are publishing the results of the Forum about Scientific Production in Business Administration in Brazil in the period 2000-2010, which was organized by Professors Carlos Osmar Bertero, Flávio Carvalho de Vasconcelos, Marcelo Pereira Binder and Thomas Wood Jr, with ideas and recommendations in five key study areas: Organizational Behavior, Personnel Management, Funding, Operations Management, and Marketing.

We wish everybody an enjoyable reading experience!

**Eduardo Diniz**  
Editor-in-chief