

The Materia Symposium Reaches Its Tenth Version

The Materia Symposium was conceived by a group of Latin-American scientists belonging to the Latin-American Network on Materials that are also responsible for the Journal Materia and the Itinerant School of Materials. The sequence of events include: **I** – 1996, Bariloche; **II** – 1997, Montevideo; **III** – 1998, Caracas; **IV** – 2000, Rio de Janeiro; **V** – 2001, México; **VI** – 2002, Santiago; **VII** – 2003, Bariloche; **VIII** – 2004, Arequipa; **IX** – 2005, Cartagena and **X** – 2007, Morélia, information on the latter being available at the following web page: <http://132.248.12.175/materia2007/index.htm>. During these years an important increase on the availability of financial support to research and on the consequent scientific activity in the area were observed in some member countries, as well as an enhancement of the work on a graduate level and of the cooperative scientific interchange in others. A considerable increase on the number of articles presented in successive versions of the symposium was also experienced.

However, one of the specially marked observations that can be made for that period is related to the Journal Materia. By the initial versions of the Materia Symposium, the journal was dependent on the articles there presented to build up its annual publication content. Nowadays the journal keeps a continuous and increasing flux of articles that are submitted directed by the members of the Latin-American community on materials science and engineering, as well as from other congresses from this area, which began to offer the journal a selection of their best articles to undergo its peer-review and publication processes. This indicates that the Materia Symposium and the Journal Materia have grown up and stabilized themselves within the Latin-American scientific environment, which are clear demonstrations of success of the timid effort made a little over one decade from now, for which a long life is expected in the region. Your own personal participation in the symposium and the journal, through the presentation and publication of articles from your scientific production is very much welcomed and an important guarantee of the continuity of these actions.

Cordially,

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Editor-in-Chief

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