

## EDITORIAL

Production and dissemination of scientific knowledge is undergoing intense profound transformations just as other areas of society have already undergone. The Internet and social networks are present in our everyday living and scientific production and its discussion must adapt to the new (not so new) possibilities. The scientific community, which is committed to innovation and the breaking of rules in addition to proposing novelties, is attached to the “modus operandi” of scientific knowledge dissemination tied to commercial publishers. Open access to scientific production is under extensive debate and has steadily gained space in discussions, and effectively in scientific knowledge dissemination. Scientific Electronic Library (SciELO) and Public Library of Science (PLOS) are practical examples of quality open dissemination of scientific knowledge. Scientific production dissemination has always occurred through peer review. Manuscripts submitted for possible publication to a scientific journal, which can be controlled by a commercial publisher, a scientific association, or an institution of education and research, will undergo peer evaluation process. The editorial board of a scientific periodical, comprised mostly by researchers of recognized competence affiliated to (contractors/staff/officials) scientific research institutions (public universities and research institutes), assesses the manuscripts submitted and endorses their publication. In technological production, financing, professionals’ salaries and research structure are funded primarily by companies; however, in basic research all costs are public. Basic scientific knowledge production and its application are globally funded by public resources (with rare exceptions). Costs with researchers, staff and research structure for project development are funded by the State. Thus, all citizens should have the right to this information. Open access does not mean unqualified scientific dissemination as peer review always prevails. SciELO database is an example of this procedure. The inclusion of a scientific journal in this database undergoes very careful analysis that involves assessment of the procedures adopted by the periodical for manuscript evaluation including information from all referees on the papers submitted to publication. *Acta Limnologica Brasiliensia* has always proceeded with the rigor of peer review by highly qualified researchers and, consequently, was admitted to SciELO database in 2011. Therefore, scientific articles published in *Acta* have open access. Recently (January 2012), some renowned researchers demonstrated against commercial publishers, as mathematician Timothy Gowers, who was accompanied by more than 10,000 researchers that signed the manifesto “The Cost of Knowledge”. In July 2012, the European Commission issued a recommendation concerning open access (free for the reader) publication of the scientific research results financed by public funding. The movement and initiatives for open access have been gaining ground and today we have got SciELO (Scientific Electronic Library Online) – a database housing periodicals from Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Cuba, Spain and Portugal among other countries, with a total of 1,044 indexed journals offering 425,384 articles. Another important means of open access scientific dissemination is Public Library of Science (PLOS), which has been publishing high quality articles attracting many researchers to publish the results of their studies. *Acta Limnologica Brasiliensia* intends to carry on open access via SciELO and its page on the Brazilian Association of Limnology contributing to this new major expanding movement. Let us continue honoring our journal and contribute to this cause by publishing in *Acta Limnologica Brasiliensia*.

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*Chief Editor*