International collaboration has a direct relation with the quality of scientific production. A study published in the London School of Economics (LSE) blog was conducted with the intent of finding the relationship between the characteristics of an academic department and the quality of its professors’ publication. After investigating Departments of Economics in France for nearly two decades, this study identified a positive impact of co-authorship among institutions of different countries on the quality of academic production.

We had already pointed out that among the more than 600 papers submitted to RAE in 2013; those produced by international partnerships had an almost twofold greater chance of being approved by desk review. Even though our results are based on a much smaller scale than the LSE study, the fact that we have reached a convergent conclusion reinforces the need to invest in international partnerships.

This question is to know how and on what type of partnership to invest. Without going into too much depth, at least two very important aspects need close attention when seeking alternatives for building international partnerships in the academic world.

The first is the evident growth of international interest in Brazil. This interest attracts attention to some of our particular themes. Researchers from developed countries have dedicated increasing time to understand our sinuous logic, sometimes with some difficulty in explaining it with their models. Researchers from emerging countries are interested in learning some of the models we have developed here, especially in agricultural technologies and social policies.

The second aspect is the increase in Brazil’s international responsibility. The identification of our country in a differentiated block of those that are already developed as well as of a majority that are still emerging is an important sign. It forces us to develop a research agenda that opens opportunities for partnerships with institutions from countries with the most varied profiles. We can help some to understand us better and we can learn more about others that want to adopt models developed in our contexts.

The strengthening of our journals may be a major ally in the search for international partnerships, opening a channel that permits approaching potential co-authors. Strengthened and relevant for us, our journals are becoming priority platforms for disclosing our research abroad, while also offering opportunities for foreign authors interested in communicating with the Brazilian public. The essay on digital ethics, by Professor Piercarlo Maggiolini, published in this issue, fits this second aspect.

In this issue of RAE, we published three original articles presented in the XVI Symposium on Production Management, Logistics, and International Operations (SIMPOI 2013), promoted by the Production Management Department and FGV-EAESP Operations. “Novos horizontes para operações competitivas”, written by the organizers invited to the SIMPOI/RAE Forum, presents three articles approved in the process. “A prática da Gestão de Operações nas organizações” identifies Operations Management themes currently valued by manufacturers in the creation, use, and dissemination of new concepts of production. “Como gestores hospitalares utilizam indicadores de desempenho?” analyzes how hospital services managers use performance indicators to achieve the strategic management of resources from the perspective of managing knowledge based on evidence. “Green Supply Chain: protagonista ou coadjuvante no Brasil?” investigates the dissemination of Green Supply Chain management concepts and practices in the Brazilian scenario.

We also published five original articles: “Cessão de crédito e restrição de capital: um estudo com bancos brasileiros” researches the relationship between capital constraint and the assignment of credit by banks in Brazil. “Características organizacionales de la satisfacción laboral en España” analyzes the effects of the characteristics inherent to work over job satisfaction. “Demonstração de resultado econômico: percepção do comando da aeronáutica do Brasil” studies the perception of Brazilian Air Force agents on the introduction of the Income Statement (DRE) to the public sector. “Stock exchange listing induces sophistication of capital budgeting” compares capital budgeting techniques employed in companies listed in stock exchanges in Brazil with those of unlisted companies. “Cognitive legitimacy, resource access, and organizational outcomes” is a case study with six Spanish state universities to measure the relationship between cognitive legitimacy, access to resources, and organizational results.

This issue is completed with the essay “A deep study on the concept of digital ethics”, signed by Piercarlo Maggiolini; a review on the book “Estratificação socioeconômica e consumo no Brasil”, by Wagner A. Kamakura and José Afonso Mazzon; and book recommendations on social business and voluntary association and democracy.

We wish a pleasant reading to all!

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