Editorial

Welcome to the new RBFAR

This issue marks the beginning of the next stage in development for Revista Brasileira de Farmacognosia/Brazilian Journal of Pharmacognosy: we begin the partnership with Elsevier Publishing, and a new editorial team takes over. Some can probably remember the limited scope and vision we had when I began as editor-in-chief four years ago; we were unsure of what the future would hold for our journal. Today, we focus on the hopes and dreams of a bright group of Brazilian scientists who can make a difference for us all. The editors (AE Linder, A Zampronio, FB da Costa, MW Biavatti, MR Duarte, PD Fernades, RN Almeida, and SG Leitao) welcome the new associate editors: Paulo Cezar Vieira (UFSCar), Sérgio Ricardo Ambrósio (Unifran), Magna Suzana Alexandre Moreira (UFAL), and Fabio Boylan (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland), who now complement our team of editors.

Over the course of the last 25 years, RBFAR has established itself as an important vehicle for publishing scientific research in the pharmacognosy field in Brazil, and now we move on to become a journal of international scope as well. Our challenge is to ensure the continuity of this successful editorial project, promoting changes that further invigorate the journal. Our first change has been to expand the number of associate editors in order to effectively manage the growing number of article submissions. The other major change has been to make every effort to professionalize the journal, and we have achieved that by forming a partnership with Elsevier Publishing, placing our articles in the leading full-text scientific data base, ScienceDirect®, with more than 2,500 other scientific journals. This will certainly increase the visibility of all articles as well as the credibility of RBFAR. It will also provide us with the possibility to have our journal indexed in other important bases that we still have not reached, such as PubMed.

To reach a quality standard, efforts are being made by the editors to reduce the length of the reviewing process, resulting in a faster response to authors, a more rapid definition of rejected manuscripts, and a more timely publication of accepted papers. If a submission is judged not to merit peer review and is “desk rejected,” its author(s) will hear from us within two weeks of submission. However, we understand that authors have a right to an explanation for our decisions. To help the editors facilitate this process and avoid early rejections, we strongly recommend that authors carefully read our submission guide. In our new webpage at Elsevier Editorial System, authors will have access to all the necessary guidance and information they need in order to make submissions.

Finally, we must state that the increasing number of manuscripts received in the last year has led us to decrease the proportion of those we accept. In addition, we have decided to publish a smaller number of articles than we have previously published. Thus, from the present time and in 2014, no more than twenty articles will be published per issue.

We are confident that this new phase of the journal will lead to consolidated growth not only for the journal but also, and more importantly, for research in Brazil’s field of Pharmacognosy.

Cid Aimbré de Moraes Santos
Editor-in-chief of Revista Brasileira de Farmacognosia/Brazilian Journal of Pharmacognosy