

Editorial

The last year has seen a number of changes in the production of the *Memórias*. The most obvious have been the modifications to the covers of the Journal. The title has been given greater predominance and the colour of the cover changed. The new colour, ochre, of the regular issues reflects the principal colour of the Moorish Castle which is the original home of the Oswaldo Cruz Institute, while the green colour which was the initial colour of the journal has been reserved for the cover of the supplements. The content page on the back cover has been reformed with regular articles and research notes being grouped together and subdivided by topics. The layout of the inside pages have also been changed so that regular articles and research notes are now differentiated by their layouts.

Changes have also been made in the editorial office with the implantation of information technology in the preparation of the manuscripts. The authors, once a manuscript has been accepted, are now asked to send a PC-DOS compatible diskette along with the revised manuscript. This has allowed the composition and diagrammation of the journal to be carried out "in house" with considerable savings in the cost of production. Paid subscriptions have been introduced for both institutional and personal subscribers and the distribution list has been reformed. A complete revision has been made of the list of journals that are permuted with the *Memórias*. The stock of back issues of the journal going back nearly ninety years has been reorganized and requests for these issues can now be promptly attended.

These modifications have been accompanied by other developments. There has been a considerable increase in the number of manuscripts submitted for publication and a greater diversity in the origin of the manuscripts. Over two thirds of the manuscripts are now submitted from outside the institute and half of these from outside Brazil. The journal is thus changing its characteristic of being a vehicle for the divulgation of Brazilian science to an international audience and becoming more an international journal published in Brazil. The number of paid personal subscriptions, in its first year of introduction, both in Brazil and abroad indicates that a market still exists for a multidisciplinary journal in an increasingly fragmented biomedical research community.

With the above developments in mind, the editorial board has decided to introduce a number of modifications with effect from January 1, 1995. The *Memórias* will change from being a quarterly to a bimonthly publication. Volume 90 will consist of six regular issues and one supplement. There will be no increase in the current subscription prices. A correspondence session will be introduced where readers will be welcomed to comment on papers published in the *Memórias* and authors given an opportunity to reply. It is hoped these changes will improve the usefulness of the *Memórias* to both readers and authors.

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