

Materials Research - Ibero-american Journal of Materials

Judicious, fair and educative!

In the previous Editorial we showed that the time for analysis and publication of articles in *Mat. Res.* varies from two up to twelve months. In the current Editorial we focus on the evolution of the number of papers published from the very first days of this periodical until 2007. Figure 1 shows that the number of published papers have continuously increased up to 2002, and reached a plateau fluctuating somewhat at about 80 papers per year. The cumulative approval/submission ratio is about **0.55** (631 published papers from a total of 1148 submitted papers).

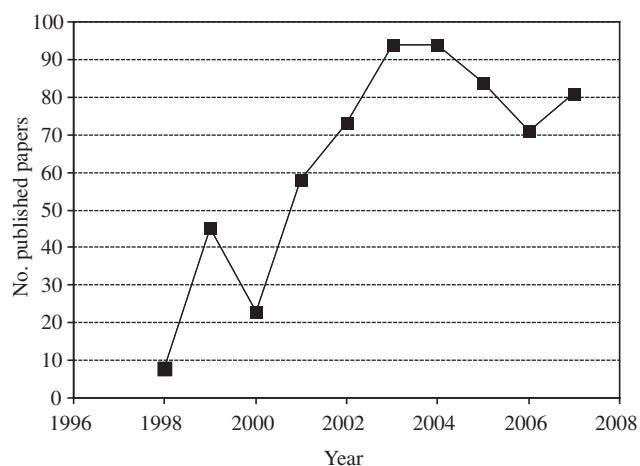


Figure 1. Number of published papers per year in *Mat. Res.*

We would like to seize this opportunity and point out that the very important role of the anonymous assessors in the process of evaluation of scientific papers has frequently been overlooked. One could affirm, paraphrasing Churchill, that the anonymous evaluation by pairs is the worst form of scientific evaluation, except for all others that already had been tried... In fact, The American Physical Society (APS) recently created the “**Outstanding Referee**” program. This is a prize, a lifetime honorific heading, which will be attributed annually to the anonymous referees of the APS periodicals that are considered outstanding for the quality, number and timing of their reviews. Therefore, we would like to consult the members of the editorial board, and our numerous authors and reviewers if we should follow a similar line of thought.

We gratefully acknowledge CNPq and CAPES for covering the editorial and printing costs of this issue of *Mat. Res.* The financial support from Departamento de Engenharia de Materiais, Universidade Federal de São Carlos - DEMa/UFSCar - for mailing expenses; the Vitreous Materials Laboratory - LaMaV/UFSCar for fax and telephone expenses are also acknowledged. Associação Brasileira de Metalurgia e Materiais – ABM – and Associação Brasileira de Polímeros – ABPol - covered the editorial assistant’s salary. The secretaries of the Associação Brasileira de Cerâmica – ABC - ABPol and ABM have helped advertising *Materials Research* and managing its subscriptions and financial resources.

Edgar Dutra Zanotto
Editor-in-chief
March 20, 2008

At present *Materials Research* is classified in the QUALIS-Capes (Brazil) by its several committees as shown below:

Level	Committee	
A	National	Engineering IV
A	National	Pharmacy
A	National	Geosciences
A	National	Medicine II
A	National	Multidisciplinary
A	National	Chemistry
A	International	Engineering II
B	International	Engineering I
B	International	Engineering III
C	International	Physics / mathematics

This table shows that most committees view *Materials Research* as an excellent (A) or good (B) periodical!

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