The second editorial of 2021 is dedicated to the award for the best reviewers of the Brazilian Journal of Public Administration (RAP), highlighting one of the journal’s most important communities.

Today, RAP has an expressive number of reviewers – 985 – who guarantee timely and quality feedback on the articles submitted to the journal. Last year alone, more than 884 manuscripts were received. After a precise and rigorous desk review carried out by the associate editors, around 33% of these go on to the double-blind peer-review process. We continue to invest in this process, so the reviewers’ feedback is constructive and helpful to improve the quality of published works.

The increase in the number of reviewers who are young Ph.D. scholars and Ph.D. students has been very important in this development. I note that they stand out for their high-quality reviews. However, there are moments where the tone used in their feedback to authors may not be adequate and reflects the field’s competitive rhetoric. Therefore, it is important to remind that sensitivity is essential, particularly in Public Administration, which is marked by conceptual and ideological debates. As I believe that the constructive language is as significant as the theoretical-empirical contribution of the reviews, I would like to encourage a reflection in our community of reviewers on the importance of seeking this coherence. In my view, understanding that the reviewing process is a collective construction where we all learn is an essential step to improve the quality of our journal.

Selecting the journal’s best reviewers of the year is one of the most rewarding tasks. These reviewers were evaluated and selected from a list of 414 reviewers who contributed to the journal throughout 2020. The classification was prepared with the support of Eliane Barbosa da Conceição (Editorial Support), who analyzed the quality and the number of reviews (the selection considered reviewers that worked on at least two manuscripts) throughout the year.

The list of the best reviewers below reflects the work of young Ph.D. scholars and researchers already recognized in our field. In this issue, I would like to highlight the contribution of Professor Mário Aquino Alves (FGV EAESP), who managed to review five articles offering high-quality feedback to authors.

Aline Santos  
Cláudio José Oliveira dos Reis  
Liliane Magalhães Girardin Pimentel Furtado  
Mário Aquino Alves  
Paula Chies Schommer  
Rafael Cardoso Sampaio
Renata Mirandola Bichir
Tássia de Souza Cruz
Vicente da Rocha Soares Ferreira
Yan Bernardes Vieites Castro dos Santos

We hope that the publication of this list will encourage our reviewers-collaborators to deliver consistent and constructive reviews on the manuscripts received by RAP. We invite new reviewers to join this community. The quality of RAP relies on each one of you.

Thank you very much.

Alketa Peci
Editor-in-chief

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