

## Track 5 - Scientific Communication & Electronic publishing. Open access, open archives

### BUILDING BETTER SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS IN PERU

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#### INTRODUCTION

During the last two years, institutions as the Consejo Nacional de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Tecnológica (CONCYTEC), Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia and Pan American Health Organization, Representative in Peru (PAHO), have joined efforts to disseminate international standards on edition of scientific publications. As a consequence of this work, some initiatives have been generated for improving the publishing quality of peruvian scientific journals.

These initiatives were established within the framework of national efforts to promote a culture of quality in scientific publication as result of research. The establishment of minimum criteria for the qualification of national journals and the creation of a representative association of scientific editors in the country will make possible to increase and strength the presence and visibility of our national scientific research.

#### INITIATIVES

1. **Red Peruana de Bibliotecas en Salud = Peruvian Network of Health Libraries (REPEBIS).** In September 2003, the Executive Committee of REPEBIS highlighted the need to set minimum criteria for the qualification of scientific health journals to be registered in LIPECS database (Literatura Peruana en Ciencias de la Salud = Peruvian Literature in Health Sciences). A Committee for the Qualification of Scientific health Journals was established with representatives of Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, CONCYTEC and PAHO Peru.

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For the evaluation of the journals, this committee established criteria based on the standards of:

- Latindex (Sistema Regional de Información en Línea para REvistas Científicas de América Latina, el Caribe, España y Portugal = Regional Information System on Line for Scientific Journals of Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal)
- SciELO (Biblioteca Científica Electrónica en Línea = Scientific Electronic Library on Line)
- LILACS (Literatura Latinoamericana en Ciencias de la Salud = Latin American Literature in Health Sciences)
- Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Resulting a table with 41 items and a pilot study was carried out considering the following:

- Presence in LILACS
- Period 2002-2003.

13 titles were obtained in order to do the pilot study. After the evaluation, the committee concluded with the following analysis.

Acta Cancerológica  
Anales de la Facultad de Medicina de  
la Universidad Nacional Mayor de  
San Marcos  
Dermatología Peruana  
Diagnóstico  
Folia Dermatológica  
Revista de Gastroenterología del Perú

Revista de Neuro Psiquiatría  
Revista de la Sociedad Peruana de  
Medicina Interna  
Revista Estomatológica Herediana  
Revista Médica Herediana  
Revista Peruana de Cardiología  
Revista Peruana de Medicina  
Experimental  
Sitúa

a) The journals did not have the following items:

- Legal deposit
- Title of the article in two languages
- Periodicity mentioned.
- Abbreviated title of the journal
- Fulfillment of the periodicity

b) More frequent errors:

- Not use of the term “Table of contents.”
- Not locating adequately the bibliographic references in the text
- Do not use the DeCS/MeSH (Descriptores en Ciencias de la Salud / Medical Subject Heading)
- Bad location of ISSN (International Standard Serial Number)

From the analysis done, the committee concluded that:

a) The utilization of standards was necessary for the qualification of medical journals in Peru.

- b) Suggest the peruvian medical editors to improve the presentation and contents of their journals.
  - c) Promote the promulgation of national standards that will demand from the medical editors, the fulfillment of standards in publications and recognizing LIPECS as a national referent for the scientific health research.
2. **Sistema Regional de Información en Línea para Revistas Científicas de América Latina, el Caribe, España y Portugal = Regional Information System on Line for Scientific Journals of Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal (Latindex).** At the end of 2003, CONCYTEC signed a collaboration commitment with Latindex for the collection and evaluation of peruvian scientific journals. The system has 33 qualification parameters for the journals to be admitted at the Latindex database. ([www.latindex.org](http://www.latindex.org))

#### **BASIC CHARACTERISTICS**

- 1 Mention of the editorial body
- 2 Contents (at least 40% of the Publisher materials)
- 3 One year of life
- 4 Identification of the authors
- 5 City of edition
- 6 Publishing institution
- 7 Mention of the Director
- 8 Mention of the address

#### **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JOURNAL**

- 9 Title page
- 10 Mention of the periodicity
- 11 Table of contents
- 12 Bibliographic header at the beginning of the article
- 13 Bibliographic header on each page
- 14 Members of the Editorial Board
- 15 Institutional affiliation of the Editorial Board members
- 16 Authors affiliation
- 17 Dates of reception and acceptance of originals articles

#### **JOURNAL POLICY CRITERIA AND MANAGEMENT**

- 18 ISSN
- 19 Journal scope
- 20 Peer Review system
- 21 External evaluators
- 22 Exgternal authors
- 23 Open editorial
- 24 Information services
- 25 Periodicity fulfillment

## CONTENTS CHARACTERISTICS

26 Original contents

27 Instructions to the authors

28 Instructions for the elaboration of the bibliographic references

29 Exigency of originality

30 Abstracts

31 Abstracts in two languages

32 Keywords

33 Keywords in two languages

The system has 3 products:

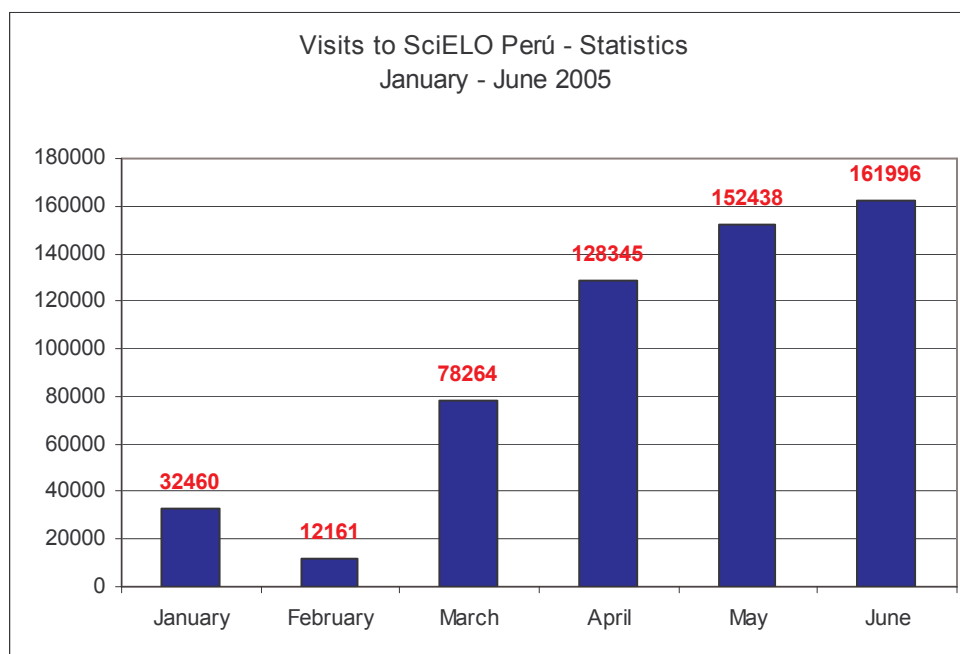
- **Directory** registers a broad variety of academic journals, with information to know their trajectory, specialization topic, editing organism, coverage in databases and distribution mechanisms, among others. For each title, the data is standardized according to the ISSN, as well as other pertinent additional information. In this moment, Peru has 144 registered titles. ([www.latindex.org/busquedas/directoriocampos.html](http://www.latindex.org/busquedas/directoriocampos.html))
  - **Catalog** constitutes a subset of the Directory. These titles have been selected and classified per each country partner, according to international publishing quality previously proven criteria and agreed by the Latindex System. The evaluation is made with the last three printed copies of the journals. At the present time, Peru has 30 titles. ([www.latindex.org/busquedas/catalogocampos.html](http://www.latindex.org/busquedas/catalogocampos.html))
  - **Index** gives direct access to a growing collection of scientific journals on line, those which have been identified through their record in the Directory or the Catalog. Peru has 37 links in this index. (<http://www.latindex.org/busquedas/indicepais.html>)
3. **SciELO Perú** (Biblioteca Científica Electrónica en Línea = Electronic Scientific Library on Line). This initiative was born in March 2004 with the signing of a Collaboration Agreement between CONCYTEC, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos and the Pan American Health Organization, Representative in Peru for the implementation of this portal. The Latindex criteria were adopted for the qualification of the journals to be entered to this portal.

SciELO Perú was officially presented on May 2004 within the framework of the International Congress of Health Information (CISS). Seven titles were initially

published and 13 titles and 92 fascicles, that come from different scientific areas are currently available.

- Anales de la Facultad de Medicina - 8 números
- Dermatología Peruana - 3 números
- Folia Dermatológica Peruana - 3 números
- Industrial Data – 1 número
- Revista Estomatológica Herediana - 1 número
- Revista de Gastroenterología del Perú - 15 números
- Revista de Investigaciones Veterinarias del Perú - 6 números
- Revista de la Sociedad Peruana de Medicina Interna - 6 números
- Revista de Neuro-Psiquiatría - 1 número
- Revista del Instituto de Investigación de la Facultad de Ingeniería Geológica, Minera, Metalúrgica y Geográfica - 13 números
- Revista Medica Herediana - 14 números
- Revista Peruana de Biología - 4 números
- Revista Peruana de Medicina Experimental y Salud Publica - 17 números

SciELO Perú has become a national referent for accessing free quality scientific information and has helped to increase the publishing level of the peruvian scientific journals.



4. **Comité Nacional para la Edición de Publicaciones Científicas = National Committee for the Edition of Scientific Publications.** This Advisory Committee of CONCYTEC recommends and advises the scientific publication editors in the

fulfillment of the international standards for the edition of their journals. It carries out trainings and events related to the publishing task.

- National Seminar on Edition of Scientific Journals. 2001.
- II National Seminar on Edition of Scientific Journals, 2003.
- International Seminar “Edition of Scientific Journals”, March 2004.
- International Workshop “The Scientific Article” with Herbert Stegemann, M.D. President of the Association of Publishing Houses of Medical Journals of Venezuela (ASEREMEVA), October 2004.

## RESULTS

CONCYTEC as coordinator of Latindex in Peru has narrowed bonds with scientific editors, in order to give them technical assistance on the need and importance of using international standards to improve the quality of their journals and succeed obtaining the national scientific research achieves presence and visibility in the international community.

In its first year, SciELO Peru has achieved a growth of 87% in its titles, 690% in fascicles. They project to incorporate 6 new titles during its second year. SciELO Peru has proven to be an excellent tool for the electronic publication of scientific journals.

All these initiatives have met the need for the creation of a scientific editor association in the country that promotes professional training in publishing work and its interrelationship with similar societies in the region.

For all this, the Technical Committee of SciELO Peru convoke a group of scientific editors to propose the creation of an association. As a result, there has been created **APECi (Asociación Peruana de Editores Científicos = Peruvian Association of Scientific Publishing Houses)**, who is born as a nonprofit civil association, with the following objectives:

- a) Help to improve the scientific quality of scientific national publications. Monitor and orienting ethical issues in these publications.
- b) Promote electronic publication of scientific journals, using international standards.
- c) Promote national scientific research and promote the recognition of the best scientific articles in the country.

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