


EDITORIAL

The contribution of scientific journals to the advancement of science and the role of Educitec Journal

Iandra Maria Weirich da Silva Coelho  <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3513-962X>
Instituto Federal do Amazonas
e-mail – iandra.coelho@ifam.edu.br

Given the adverse circumstances in which the world finds itself, due to the current crisis of contemporary humanity with the pandemic of the new coronavirus (COVID-19), I could not fail to start the writing of 2021 Editorial of Educitec Journal, commending me for the constant losses, especially in the northern region, which was plagued earlier this year, by the increase in the number of people infected with a new, more transmissible variant of the virus and by deaths, many of them caused by a lack of oxygen in hospitals, a lack of beds and ICU vacancies, as well as a shortage of basic inputs to serve the population.

In this setting, we lost many of our fellow professors and technicians, as well as the magnificent rector of our institution, Professor Antônio Venâncio Castelo Branco (in Memoriam) and one of the members of the Educitec Scientific Editorial Committee, professor Dr. Augusto Fachín Terán (in Memoriam), from the State University of Amazonas, which in addition to his role in the journal, also left a large contribution and legacy, through his research and his experience in the area of Ecology of Amazonian Chelonian and Science Teaching in non-formal spaces.

Such events culminated in the perceived difficulty in selecting a theme for the 2021 Editorial writing, due to a mixture of feelings such as sadness and indignation that, together with resilience and hope, converged to impress an increasingly diligent work, together with the editorial team, to give continuity, to move forward and seek, every day, to enhance scientific communication, its proper dissemination and the right place in the academic environment and in society.

In this sense, this Editorial is taken as a prominent place to deal with these themes, to socialize the new actions and advances of the magazine, as well as to highlight the importance of science and scientific dissemination, themes that should be part of our repertoire, especially in a historic moment that we experience the innovations related to the development of vaccines, which represent a vital step in tackling the pandemic.

Despite the numerous challenges and constant questions about the vaccine, regarding the lack of answers about its effectiveness, protection or capacity for vaccine coverage, this resource remains the main solution for the worsening of the disease and deaths

and, in this perspective, the science, the constant researches, through controlled protocols, and the wide dissemination of results reflect the role and value of Brazilian science in combating the transmission of the disease.

Science has made advances in the health field and its contributions are unquestionable, affecting the lives of researchers, institutions, and the society. In this sense, “science has gained more space and with it, the knowledge production, reflected in the growth of literature and the development of techniques and specializations in areas” VALÉRIO; PINHEIRO, 2008, p. 160).

A large part of these impacts is carried out by scientific journals, which have a fundamental role in the process of communicating science and the mission of taking this knowledge further, consolidating new forms of scientific communication, promoting open access and changing the culture, in the production, revision and dissemination, with the potential to create an favorable environment to scientific dissemination, based on the ethics and integrity principles.

In this context, “scientific communication has become vital for Science, because, in addition to disseminating the results of research, it provides the protection of intellectual property by identifying its producer and consolidates knowledge through the analysis and acceptance of results by the scientific community” (MIRANDA; CARVALHO; COSTA, 2018, p. 7). For the authors, “the communication disseminated through scientific journals collaborates significantly in the development of science, once these are identified as vehicles of communication, contributing to the rapid dissemination of results and new research methodologies” (MIRANDA; CARVALHO; COSTA, 2018, p. 1).

The dissemination of scientific communication, as the main goal, also brings different challenges to the journals and their editorial teams, which involve the quality of the content and the lack of resources to maintain and enhance the scientific journals, in order to make the operation of the information and the actions efficiency, greater dissemination of scientific communication, and the process modernization, because of the speed, innovations in the content presentation, wide visibility through free access to information, agility and transparency in editorial procedures.

These actions can benefit authors, researchers, institutions, and the community, fostering a culture of convergence and collaboration, to consolidate an ecosystem that involves a continuous process of research, production, publication, sharing, dissemination, access, and the knowledge use, in view of the dissemination of “information regarding the direction of science, transforming published works tangible and accessible for discussion towards the academic community” (MIRANDA; CARVALHO; COSTA, 2018, p. 1).

This dynamic dissemination transcends the wide disclosure of research results in other areas, such as teaching, for example, highlighting the Educitec Journal role as a potential vehicle for the publication and propagation of themes related to scientific and technological development in this area, as well as advances, perspectives, challenges, progress and trends in the educational context, capable of providing new debates, to generate academic and social impact.

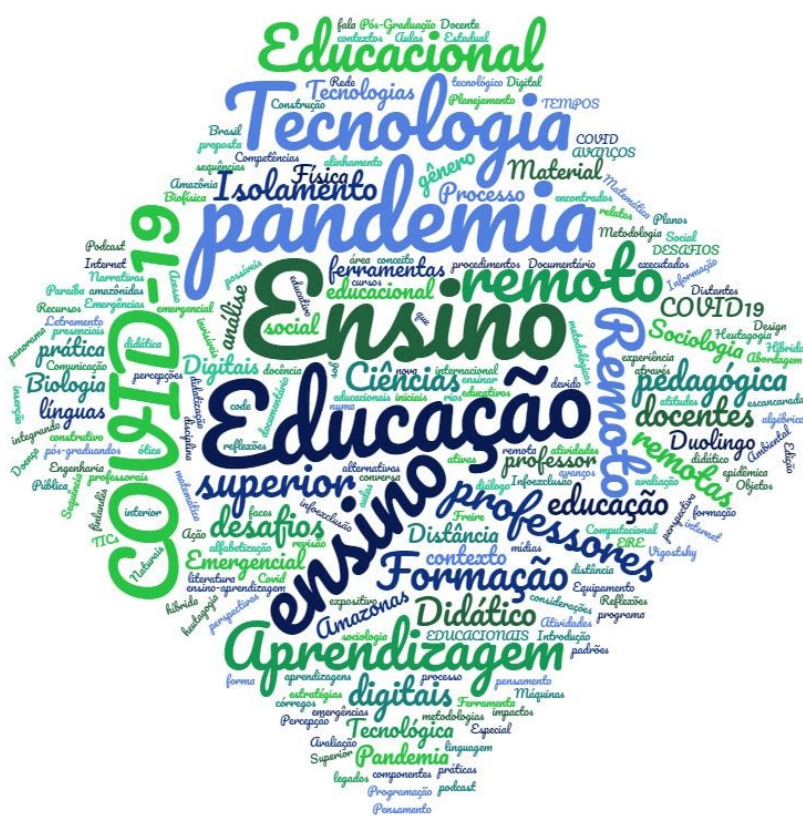
One of the actions was reflected in the organization of a special volume dedicated to the publication of articles on the theme of **Challenges and educational advances in times of COVID-19**, with the collaboration of professors Juliana Mesquita Vidal



Martínez de Lucena, from the Federal Institute of Amazonas and Palitha Edirisingha, from the University of Leicester. The articles addressed themes directed to the teaching and learning area, adopted methodological procedures, impacts of the experiences in the teaching and learning process, perspectives of didactic approach in specific areas, systematic literature reviews on teaching methodologies, among other proposals.

Through a word cloud, I highlight some themes covered in this edition, which aimed to provide new discussions and strategies for reconfiguring the school space and the learning process at the present time and that can contribute to new reflections and planning decision making school in different areas: local, regional and national. Figure 1 presents a visual demonstration, according to the frequency of occurrence of the words in the articles published in this special edition.

Figure 1. Overview of the most frequent words in the section on COVID-19



With this scientific and social commitment, the Educitec team hopes that the knowledge being disseminated will be useful and can contribute to the academic community, and society in general. Therefore, it seeks to constantly reflect on the production flow, dissemination and diffusion of scientific communication, in order to impress the necessary improvements.

In view of this purpose, in the current contemporary complexity, the journal continues to follow a path in the search for improvement in publishing, fostering the internationalization of scientific production, updating editorial policies, and short, medium and long-term action planning, based on the permanent reflection and



systematization of its processes. These initiatives aim to boost the technical, scientific, and technological management of the editorial process, by identifying the main strategies based on the high editorial selection process, according to ethical and integrity standards (TRZESNIAK, 2009) to offer new and relevant knowledge from different thematic areas.

This path takes into account the breaking of paradigms for scientific communication, based on the Open Science movement, open access to scientific literature, reading and, reuse under Creative Commons licenses where copyright restrictions and use licenses no longer exist. In this sense, Educitec Journal started to adopt some more parameters with updated editorial policies focused on ethics and integrity in scientific publications, in order to consolidate new training spaces for the development and implementation of responsible conduct in research in the scientific community, focusing on opportunities for collaboration among researchers.

Among the new actions, I also mention the adoption of the code of good practices for editors, which consolidates the commitment of Educitec journal with its readers and other collaborators (reviewers, authors), enhancing editorial conduct guided, especially in the international principles of the Codes of Ethics from the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the indication of the authors role in the scientific production of multiple authorship, with information about the contributions performed, based on 14 functions of the Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT) and the construction of a marketing plan for the dissemination of published works.

I finish this editorial, reviving my feeling of hope at the expense of impotence, and despite so many discouragements, while the disease significantly advances other states in the country, I plead for the guarantee of an urgent vaccination coverage to assist in the treatment of the health crisis that plagues humanity, an adequate public policy, presence and potential development of research, progress of a Brazilian humanist science that generates a potential civilizing process. For that, we will continue to work constantly to impress the quality that science deserves and guarantee the maintenance of our scientific journal, aiming at the wide dissemination and consolidation of new forms of knowledge appropriation.

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