

Unveiling the Path to Success: The Enduring Relevance of Scientific Journals

O Caminho para o Sucesso: A Relevância Continuada das Revistas Científicas

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Scientific journals play a crucial role in the dissemination and advancement of scientific knowledge. They serve as a platform for researchers to publish their findings, share insights, and engage in scholarly discourse. The relevance of scientific journals lies in their ability to facilitate knowledge exchange, disseminating research findings, promote critical evaluation of research, and contribute to the development of scientific disciplines.^{1,2} To achieve and sustain success, it is essential to consider several critical aspects, with particular emphasis on the pivotal roles of Editors, Editorial Boards, and, of course, Authors.

The Editor plays a multifaceted and pivotal role in ensuring the quality (by enforcing rigorous editorial standards.), relevance (identify emerging trends, topics of interest, and research gaps within the field), and impact of the journal's content. The Editor plays a crucial role in shaping the editorial strategy and vision of the journal, by defining the journal's scope and content focus.³ The Editor is responsible for selecting manuscripts that align with the journal's scope and oversees the peer review process, which involves selecting appropriate reviewers, managing their comments and recommendations, and making the final decision on manuscript acceptance or rejection. The Editor's expertise in the field enables them to make informed decisions about the suitability of manuscripts for publication and that upholds the journal's standards of quality and integrity.^{3,4}

An esteemed editorial board consisting of recognized experts in the relevant field and a robust peer review system are vital

for the success of a scientific journal. A rigorous review process assessing the scientific merits, methodology, and significance of the submitted manuscripts and the expertise of the editorial board members ensures that the journal attracts high-quality submissions maintaining an up-to-date understanding of the field. Their involvement enhances the journal's reputation and attracts researchers to submit their work.^{5,6}

Authors are the driving force behind the journal's content, and their contributions shape the quality, impact, and reputation of the publication. Indeed, authors should strive for originality, conducting novel research that addresses important research questions. In addition are responsible for preparing well-written and well-structured manuscripts with clear and concise presentation of research findings, appropriate methodology, and accurate interpretation of results, following the journal's guidelines for manuscript formatting and adhere to ethical standards in reporting research.⁷ As a guarantee for quality authors should carefully consider and address the comments and suggestions provided by the peer reviewers. Constructive feedback from reviewers offers an opportunity to improve the manuscript so respond to the comments and make necessary revisions are of utmost relevance to enhance the quality and clarity of their work.^{4,7}

In our days, others aspects might have a strong influence in the overall success. Open access journals, providing free and unrestricted access to research articles, have gained significant

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popularity. It increases the visibility and impact of published research, fostering wider knowledge dissemination. Additionally, having a strong online presence through a user-friendly website, social media engagement, and digital promotion helps to reach a broader audience and attract more submissions. An efficient editorial management system minimizing delays and encouraging international collaboration and embracing diversity in terms of authorship, editorial board representation, and reviewer selection are aspects that might enhance author satisfaction, and improving the overall quality contributing to the success of a scientific journal. Collaboration expands the scope and quality of research, while diversity brings a range of perspectives and promotes inclusivity.⁸

All these aspects were discussed in 1º Symposium Lusiadas Scientific Journal, a participated session with intense perspectives and experiences exchange. The future of Portuguese scientific journals appears promising, with increasing emphasis on open access publishing, international collaborations, and advancements in digital technologies. These developments are expected to enhance the visibility, impact, and global reach of Portuguese scientific research.

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