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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Letter from the Editors: our first year

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We end 2013 having achieved some of our goals: we launched the four booklets scheduled in our *Sanitary Surveillance in Debate* and were awarded by Capes with the inclusion of the journal in the interdisciplinary area of the Qualis system. Among other outreach initiatives, these have led to an increasing number of hits to our website and more importantly a significant increase in the number of manuscripts submitted for publication.

Thus, in principle, the future issues for 2014 are guaranteed, which allows us to envision the next step: starting the process of indexing in various databases! We are thus overcoming the difficult barrier of starting a new publication and advancing it within the current quality parameters.

This issue on nanotechnology and regulation, which ends 2013, paves the way for one of the magazine's proposals: the publishing of thematic issues which leads to a necessary debate about new technologies and innovations arising from them and about the transformation of this knowledge into a commodity. We seek to provide information that supplements our readers' knowledge regarding the impact of new technologies on the production sector. We also seek to provide information to the users of this technology that will help them assess, understand, discuss, and defend the potential risks of this technology to the environment, the health of the workers directly involved with the production, and the population in general. To this end, gaining the attention of state authorities, who may have historical issues with safety as a result of previous experiences with DDT, thalidomide, non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, and genetically modified organisms, is important. Furthermore, these considerations contribute to the societal positions of these globally distributed products – nanotechnology or similar products – available to everyone through either commercialization or consumption.

Thus, we believe that other issues that involve health inspections and the health risks arising from both new and traditional scientific knowledge, transformed into product and health services, will become the primary topics of the thematic issues. This traditional form of scientific journals – referenced in the “Discussion” and in the same format as in the first issues – shows us a new way of thinking that aims to provide systematized information to readers.

In particular, we have to thank Capes for allocation of financial resources for the Network Nanobiotec-Brazil project, which allowed the publishing of this issue in a bilingual version (Portuguese-English and English-Portuguese). Along the same lines, we acknowledge the partnership of Anvisa and INCQS, which provided the means for the development of the periodical, hence ensuring editorial quality for the next volume to be published in 2014.

Finally, we hope that this issue as well as the previous ones can contribute to the dissemination of necessary knowledge. Furthermore, we can help motivate all public and private agents to think of their responsibilities in the globalized world, its products and consequences, especially for the safety of the population.