

EDITORIAL

Intangible Capital: An opportunity for PhD students and junior researchers

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Abstract:

The aim of this editorial is to present the most important Intangible Capital milestones of 2008. During the last year, the Intangible Capital published its 4th volume, together with information regarding the journal's visibility and the first results of a satisfaction survey conducted among the authors, who submitted a paper for evaluation. In addition, the annex presents the list of reviewers and the Editorial Board members who have enabled the publication of the fourth volume of the Intangible Capital. This editorial also provides information regarding the aspects that indicate the beginning of the journal's consolidation, and the importance of maintaining the basic principles that gave rise to this publication. The editorial concludes by encouraging PhD advisors, doctoral students and junior researchers the Intangible Capital a potential outlet for their work.

Keywords: Intangible Capital, editorial, future directions, PhD students

1. Introduction

On May 1, Intangible Capital celebrated its fifth anniversary, and we firmly believe that although the journal has matured and grown, it remains faithful to the original principles that led us to create it (Simo *et al.*, 2004). The offers junior researchers and PhD students the opportunity to consider their work, without renouncing the contributions of consolidated researchers, and the quality and academic rigor. That is why we continue to encourage PhD advisors and doctoral students to send their first empirical and theoretical papers to the Intangible Capital, offering them the opportunity to present the theoretical and methodological foundations of their research projects or at least the opportunity of receiving reviewers' valuable feedback and comments that could be useful in designing future research.

As usually, this volume also reports the most important aspects related to the journal's publication. Thus, this editorial presents the most important milestones of 2008, together with information regarding the journal's visibility and the first results of a satisfaction survey conducted among the authors who submitted a paper for evaluation, last year. Finally, the annex presents the list of reviewers and the Editorial Board members who have enabled the publication of the fourth volume of Intangible Capital.

2. Journal data

During the year 2008, Intangible Capital published the work of 32 authors, consisting in eleven articles and an editorial. The rejection rate was around 24%. Although at the beginning of 2009, the rate of received papers has increased significantly, we believe that we should continue making an effort for increasing the number of manuscripts published per issue, and therefore enhancing the journal's visibility in scientific and academic communities.

In this direction, we applied for the journal's indexation in various scientific databases and repositories. As a result, we would like to emphasize the inclusion of Intangible Capital in Scopus, which is possibly one of the best scientific databases and repositories, and one the largest database of the extant scientific literature. In the next years, we expect obtaining the first results of bibliometric indexes: journal impact factor and number of citations per article, through the SCImago Journal & Country Rank project (<http://www.scimagojr.com>).

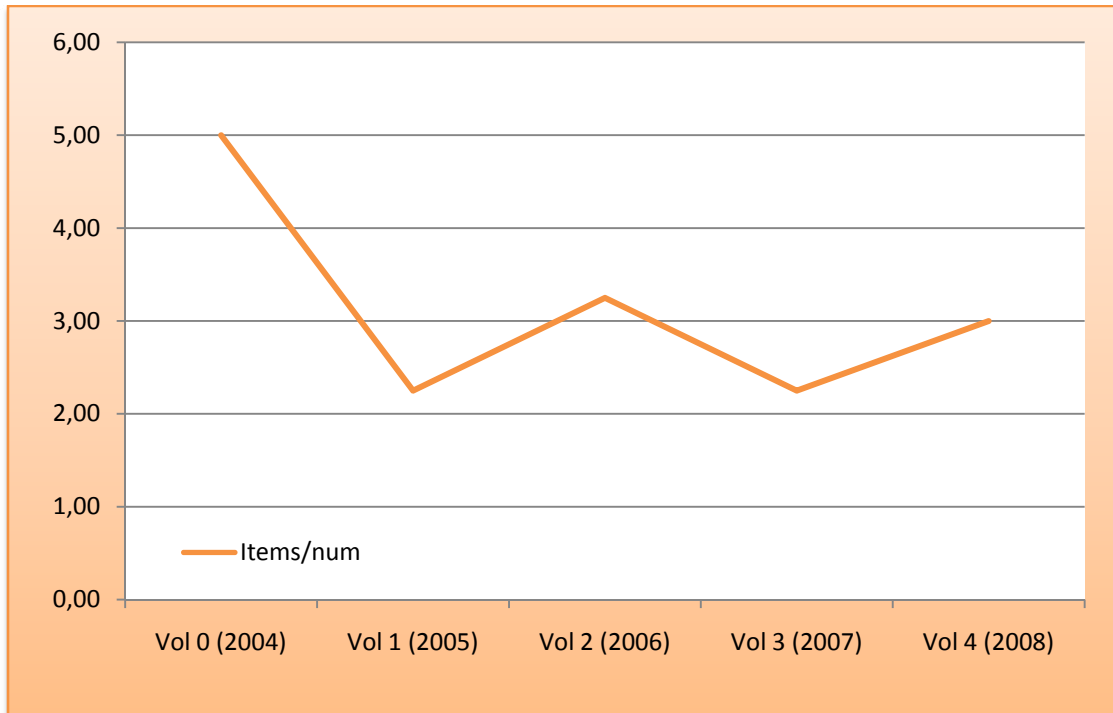


Figure 1. "Average number of papers per volume". Source: Intangible Capital

3. Visibility

The journal continues to maintain its good position in the network, reaching a Google PageRank of 6/10. Although the number of sessions has been slightly declining in the recent years, mainly due to the change of platform (cf., Sallan, 2007), the number of viewed pages has noticeably increased. On the one hand, it is logical that, as new contents are disseminated and explicit knowledge is increased in the form of papers, the number of page views continues to increase, while reducing the number of casual visitors and fostering the loyalty of a more specialized public segment.

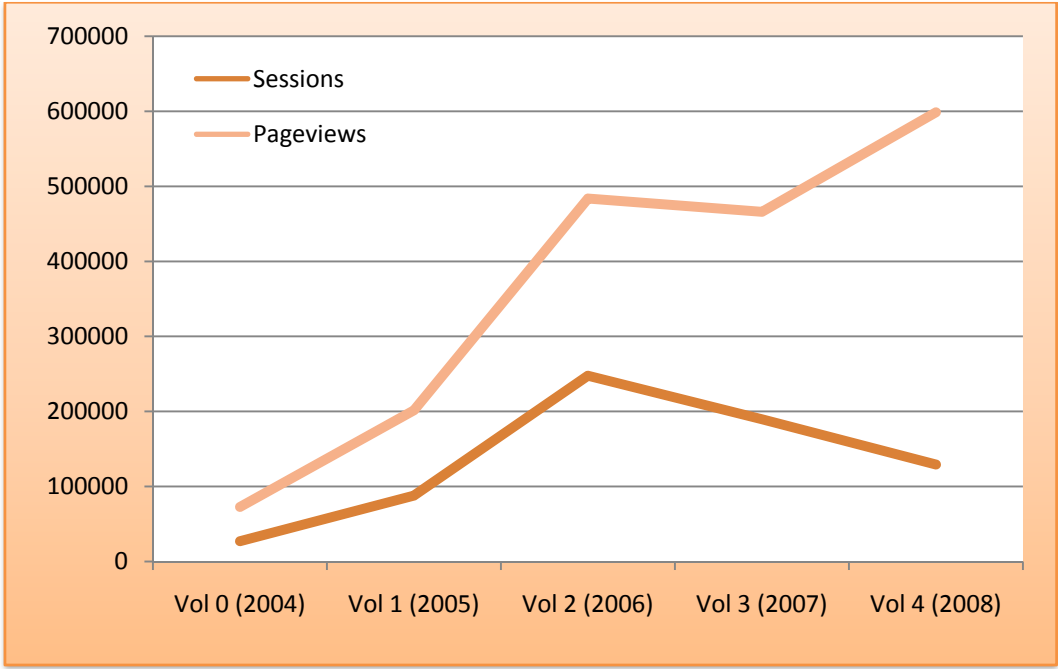


Figure 2. "Sessions and page views." Source: Intangible Capital

4. Authors' satisfaction

One of the improvement objectives suggested by the editorial team was to gather the voluntary opinions of the authors who had submitted their papers to the Intangible Capital. To this end, at the beginning of 2009 we requested 44 authors, who had sent at least one article for evaluation to the Intangible Capital, to express their opinion regarding the four basic aspects of the journal: quality of reviews, quality of responses received from the editorial team, adequacy of the time spent in the review process, and overall satisfaction with the journal.

The response rate to this anonymous questionnaire was of 36.36%. The authors evaluated the various items above mentioned on a five-point Likert scale, where 1 indicated completely dissatisfied (items 2, 3 and 4) or very poor (1 item), and 5 indicating completely satisfied (items 2, 3 and 4) or excellent (Item 1). The results reflect a high satisfaction rate in all aspects.

ITEMS	M	SD
In terms of quality, please rate the reviews: En términos de calidad, evalúe las revisiones recibidas:	3.95	0.65
In terms of quality, please rate the decision letter: En términos de calidad, evalúe las respuestas recibidas por la revista/editor:	4.23	0.59
With respect to the timeliness of reviews, please rate the time between initial submission and receiving first round of reviews and decision: Con respecto a la puntualidad de los comentarios, por favor califique el tiempo transcurrido entre la presentación inicial y la recepción de la primera ronda de evaluación y de decisión:	3.94	0.96
What is your overall level of satisfaction with regard to your experience with Intangible Capital? ¿Cuál es su nivel general de satisfacción con respecto a su experiencia con Intangible?	4.07	0.74

Table 1. "Perception of the authors in relation to IC. Source: Intangible Capital

Additionally, the authors were asked about their organizations' opinions regarding the journal, indicating one of the following three levels of importance sorted in descending order: A, B or C type. As noted in the percentages (Figure 3), the majority of authors who completed the survey were unaware of the opinion of the institution they were working for regarding the journal. Others answered that their organizations considered Intangible Capital a B type journal. One author considered that, despite of being indexed in different databases, one should have information on the impact factor of the Intangible Capital for considering it a type A journal. This is a reality of which we are obviously aware and that will definitely guide our future work.

Finally, we asked authors to explain the main reason for which they had chosen the Intangible Capital for publishing their research results. As shown in Figure 4, besides the importance of the subject area covered by the journal, other three significant reasons were emphasized by the respondents: the main reason highlighted was the journal's inclusion in relevant scientific indexes, such as DICE (<http://dice.cindoc.csic.es/>) and Latindex (<http://www.latindex.unam.mx/>), followed by fact that the Intangible Capital is an open access journal, and that it has international outreach.

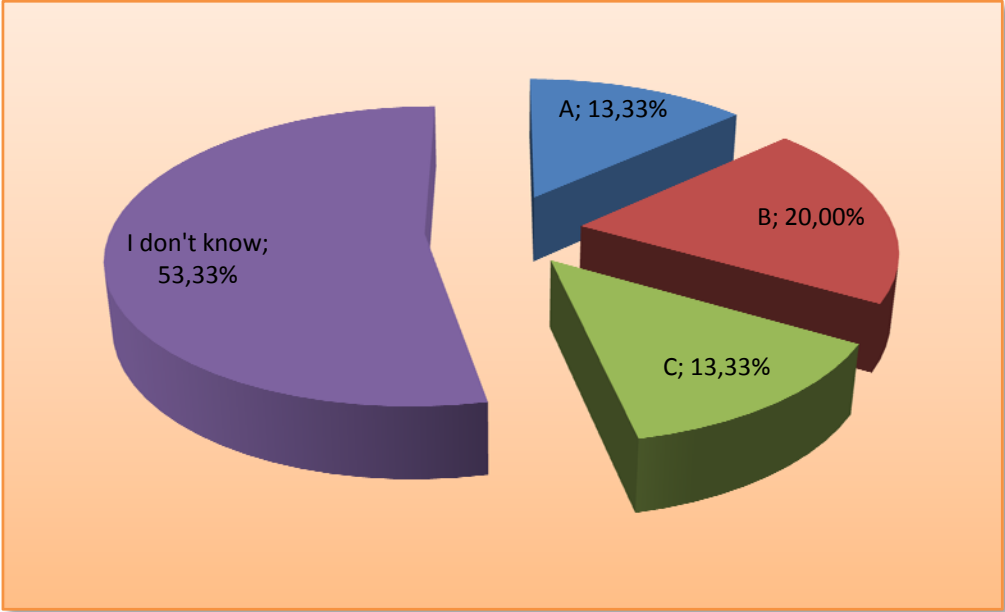


Figure 3. "Opinion of the authors' institutions regarding IC". Source: Intangible Capital

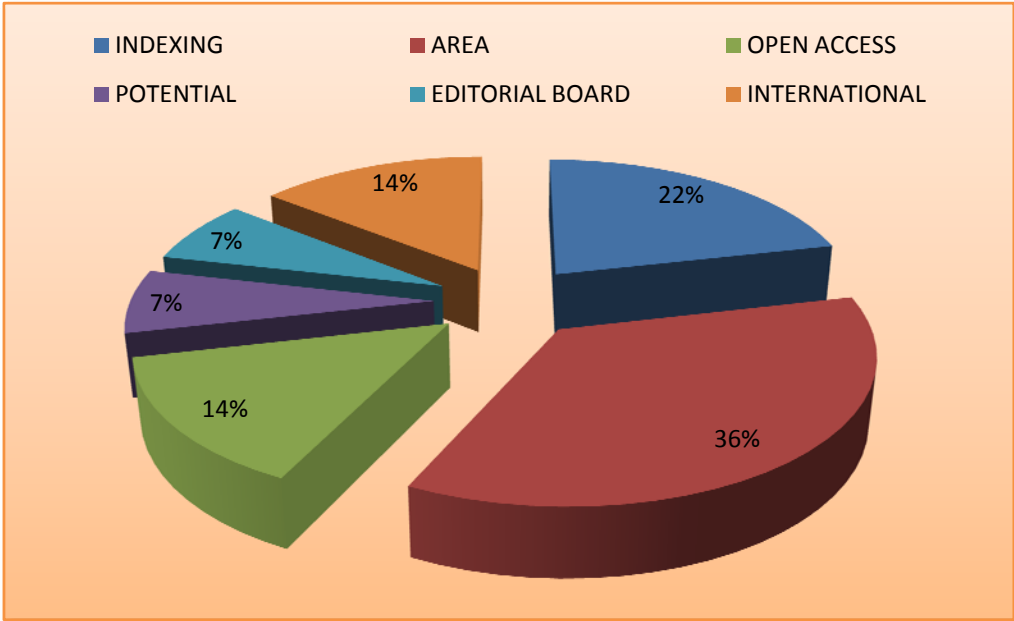


Figure 4. "Main reasons for submitting a paper to Intangible Capital." Source: Intangible Capital

5. Conclusions

As reflected in the authors' survey, during last year, the first signs indicating that Intangible Capital was started to consolidate appeared. Hence, our main mid-term goal is focused on this growth and consolidation process. We hope that 2009 will allow us to increase the ratio of published papers and we are continuously working to disseminate and publicize the journal among different scientific groups. One of the most important objectives is stay true to our guiding principles during this process of consolidation. For this reason, we invite PhD advisors to consider the Intangible Capital for submitting their manuscripts and thus obtain external evaluation and early feedback regarding the quality of their research projects.

References

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Annex

Editorial Board	Affiliation
Francisco Aliaga	Universidad de Valencia (Spain)
Marc Bonnet	Université Jean Moulin Lyon-3 / ISEOR (France)
Francisco Javier Carrillo	Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico)
Ramon Companys	Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (Spain)
Albert Corominas	Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (Spain)
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Pablo Martin de Holan	IE Business School / INCAE (Spain)
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Ramon Valle Cabrera	Universidad Pablo de Olavide (Spain)
Veronique Zardet	Université Jean Moulin Lyon-3 / ISEOR (France)

Table 2. "Members of the Editorial Board (2008)". Source: Intangible Capital

Name	Affiliation	Country
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Vicente Ripoll Feliu	Universidad de Valencia	Spain
Miguel A. Villacorta	Universidad Complutense de Madrid	Spain
Maria E. Zarate Martinez	Universidad Politècnica de Valencia	Spain
* In 2008, the total number of registered reviewers of Intangible Capital was 128		

Table 3. "Reviewers who have been actively involved in the evaluation of manuscripts (2008)". Source: Intangible Capital

