Editorial

Editorial – Past and Future Strategic Changes and Reviewers' Acknowledgments

Cristina Godinho*[a], Rui Gaspar[b]

[a] Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (ISCTE-IUL), CIS-IUL, Lisbon, Portugal. [b] Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Faculdade de Ciências Humanas. Católica Research Centre for Psychological, Family and Social Wellbeing (CRC-W), Lisbon, Portugal.

We are very pleased to acknowledge that 2018 represented a year of growth and consolidation for Psychology, Community & Health (PCH). Last year we have received submissions from research conducted across 13 different countries from 4 continents (Europe, America, Asia and Africa). Nevertheless, a decision was made not to increase the number of articles published, as our strategy has been to focus on raising the level of quality of papers accepted for publication, both from a methodological standpoint and taking into account the contribution they make to the fields of Community and Health Psychology.

Our acceptance rate - considering the total number of submitted manuscripts - currently stands on 10.3%. When taking into account only the manuscripts that went through the peer review process, we can observe that whereas in 2016 more papers have been accepted (62%) in comparison to the number of rejected papers (38%) and in 2017 these rates were even (54% acceptance and 46% rejection), in 2018, for the first time, the number of rejections (62%) was greater than the number of accepted papers (38%). This is a clear indicator of this strategic focus on improving the quality of accepted papers.

The increase in the number of submissions and higher editorial quality has also translated in new additions to the editorial team, which we very much welcome and appreciate. Besides, we have developed a procedures manual, in order to assist Associate Editors and Editorial Assistants in their roles, with a view to standardize the journal procedures and quality criteria used to evaluate the submissions received. With this procedures manual we also seek to shorten the average time needed for the revision of submitted manuscripts.

With regards to the review process, the current standards of PCH include a minimum of two rounds of review for each paper, by at least two reviewers in a blind peer review process. All papers include abstracts in English and Portuguese and will be published immediately after the final editorial decision. We have also worked to re-

duce the publication process time having set as standard a minimum expected time from submission to publication of 6 months and maximum of 12 months.

We believe that 2019 will also be a great year for PCH. Our goals will be to continue to improve the quality of the papers published and to broaden the readership of our journal. One important step we will work to is the indexation of PCH in SCOPUS/Elsevier. This will take effort and hard work – but we count on an excellent team of devoted Assistant Editors and Editorial Assistants, to whom we would like to thank deeply, to help us in this endeavour.

Lastly, we thank the great work done by the PsychOpen team in the editorial work done during the pre-publication process and overall management of the journal.

Happy 2019 to all!

Acknowledgment of Reviewers

The PCH editorial team would like to express their gratitude to the great work done by our reviewers in 2018 and for their continuous support to improve the quality of our submissions. We therefore thank the following colleagues:

Table 1

Reviewers in 2018

Filipa Pimenta	Boštjan Bajec
Susana Algarvio	Joana Calado
Maria João Alvarez	Cláudia Chaves
Micaela Reich	Elizabeth Dalton
Maria Amorim	Filomena Dias
Inês Camacho	Roberta Frontini
Joseph Pellizzari	Helena Amaro
Artemisa Dores	Luis Faisca
Marisalva Favero	Maria Figueiras
Jaclin Freire	Diana Frasquilho
Samuel Domingos	Alexandra Gomes
Beatrice Sacchetto	Sílvia Luís
Raquel Oliveira	Jorge Oliveira
Miguel Peralta	Marco Pereira
Henrique Pereira	Eduardo Remor
José Mendes	Marta Reis
Paulo Vitória	Joana Santos
Sara Santos	Gina Maria Quinás Tomé
Catarina Vaz Velho	Paulo Nuno Vieira
Fernanda Afonso	

Funding

PsychOpen GOLD

Competing Interests

The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

Acknowledgments

The authors have no support to report.