
Editorial

This is the first exclusive online release of ARBS, an editorial decision based on the current points of growth in the scientific publication environment. Nowadays, rapid release of scientific papers is imperative. Moreover, readers access primarily online journals, which promptly provide them with current literature. In the biological area, readers are every day getting more used to e-literature and this makes utilization of the internet necessary for scientific publication.

By adopting a continuous-flux system for releasing each review as soon as they are approved and completely processed, ARBS gives to its readers the most current and updated reviews in this biomedical area. This publication system is appearing increasingly in the scientific publication scenario and is supposed to dominate this environment very soon.

Although rapid publication is a necessity for the scientific literature nowadays, reader access to this literature should also be improved. Elaborating a scientific journal involves extreme dedication of all of the staff as well as adequate and continuous financial support. This cost aspect has been claimed to justify reader payment for the volumes or articles they get. More recently, even authors have been required to pay for publication in some journals, although this is not a clear indicator of quality of those journals.

The economic aspects stressed above are important and cannot be neglected. However, as a philosophical matter, scientific knowledge should be available to everyone in the scientific community regardless of economic condition. Considering this aim, one practical possibility relies on altruistic investments from governments to support free access to scientific literature to every scientist in the world. The necessary return on the investments is expected to come from the benefits science may provide to humankind.

ARBS has adopted this posture and released all your articles for free, so that people all over the world are able to get in touch with the most updated scientific literature in the biomedical sciences. This is a bold position that is acquiring some support: Such an initiative has been sponsored directly by the São Paulo State University - Unesp. We believe this initiative will contribute to building universal science not constrained by financial limitations and hope other journals may join us.

Gilson L. Volpato
Editor-in-Chief