

Editorial

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The Journal of Accounting and Organizations (*Revista de Contabilidade e Organizações* -RCO) was conceived to promote scientific production focused on the study of the characteristics and peculiarities of the business area, especially Accounting Science. The notable evolution of Accounting Science in the last decades should be highlighted, and the importance of its principles in explaining and justifying business strategies in all organizations is recognized. The areas of control, planning, evaluation, and decision-making have developed essentially through the models of accounting, allowing managers to go beyond the superficiality of their problems.

The purpose of scientific production is to produce knowledge that provides the development of the country's economic activities, by identifying the best alternatives and guidelines, expanding the advancement of science, economy, and education, also balancing the scarcity of resources with the increase of human needs. As it is very well stated by Sérgio de Iudícibus in the first work of RCO, Accounting is the science of assets, therefore also the science of scarcity.

The RCO is linked to the master's program in Controllership and Accounting held by the Department of Accounting of the School of Economics, Business Administration and Accounting of the University of São Paulo, in Ribeirão Preto city - FEA-RP/USP. It aims to bring together the best papers that contribute to accounting science, always prioritizing accounting in its modern multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives.

The RCO is an electronic journal that reduces costs to information users to facilitate the greater dissemination of knowledge produced by the academic environment. For this, it is worth pointing out that technological development, especially the Internet, has contributed significantly. The new information technologies increase the speed of the process of communication and dissemination of knowledge and thus meet the diverse interests in the field of accounting and management of organizations in different sectors and geographical areas. Currently, there are few dissemination channels for scientific production in the area of Business and Accounting, especially considering the changes in the stricto sensu post-graduation scenario. RCO emerges as a differentiated, agile alternative and by the rigorous standards and requirements characteristic of the Accounting Science determined by the *Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior* - CAPES (Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel). The concern present in the creation of the RCO is to contribute to the knowledge dissemination produced, and as a means to reduce the time between scientific production and its practical application in society. The fulfillment of this goal is a great challenge, which is configured in this first edition with important contributions.

The first paper, "Essay on some deep roots of Accounting, in support of the basic principles" (*Ensaio sobre algumas raízes profundas da Contabilidade, em apoio aos princípios fundamentais*), by Sérgio de Iudícibus, offers a unique historical-critical reflection on the "status-quo" of Accounting. It is a theoretical essay on the roots of Accounting Science, which is important for a better understanding of accounting principles and practice.

The second paper, by Flávia Zóboli Dalmácio and Luiz João Corrar, discusses "Shareholding control concentration and dividend policy of companies listed on Bovespa: an exploratory approach considering the agency theory" (*A concentração do controle acionário e a política de dividendos das empresas listadas na Bovespa: uma abordagem exploratória à luz da teoria de agência*). This important empirical study aims to explore, from the fundamentals of the agency theory, whether the shareholding composition of Brazilian companies with shares traded at Bovespa is related to their dividend policy.

Next, RCO publishes the work: "Analysis of the practices of evidence of advanced and non-organized information in the accounting statements of Brazilian companies" (*Análise das práticas de evidênciação de*

informações avançadas e não-obrigatórias nas demonstrações contábeis das empresas brasileiras"), authored by Francisco Matheus Alves Melo, Vera Maria Rodrigues Ponte, and Marcelle Colares Oliveira. The objective of the research is to highlight the level of transparency that companies are willing to show in their financial statements. The work discusses a basic question: "What is the advanced and non-mandatory information disclosed by companies in Brazil?". The conclusion is that the disclosure indexes have not yet reached the levels desired by society as a whole.

The fourth paper of this issue deals with the "Application of quantitative methods in auditing: proposals to improve procedures and reduce risks" (*"Aplicação de métodos quantitativos em auditoria: propostas para otimizar procedimentos e reduzir riscos"*). The authors, Joselito de Macedo Ribeiro and José Maria Dias Filho, researched the importance of applying statistical techniques in auditing activities, in addition to other quantitative resources, so that the independent auditor can carry out procedures with more security and issue their opinion with the least risk.

The fifth paper by Rogério Márcio de Melo Reis, Arilton Carlos Campanharo Teixeira, and Mirian Albert Pires presents an analysis of "The benefits of privatization: evidence in the Brazilian electric power sector" (*"Os benefícios da privatização: evidência no setor elétrico brasileiro"*). These authors empirically verified the behavior of the quality indicators of the electric power supplied to consumers in the Brazilian privatized distribution companies as a result of the National Privatization Program (PND). The conclusions are important and offer opportunities for further research.

The sixth paper - "The financial situation of Brazilian states: a proposal using discriminant analysis" (*"A situação financeira dos estados brasileiros: uma proposta utilizando análise discriminante"*) - by Gilmar Ribeiro de Mello and Valmor Slomski. The authors show that a large number of financial performance indicators of public entities and their different analysis ways allow different conclusions to be established, according to each analyst's point of view. These authors propose a discriminant function that best reveals the financial situation of Brazilian states.

The seventh paper, "Professors' knowledge and skills: contributions to the study of the pedagogical practice of the professor of Accounting Science in Brazil" (*"Saberes e competências do professor universitário: contribuições para o estudo da prática pedagógica do professor de Ciências Contábeis do Brasil"*), was written by Vilma Geni Slomski. The author begins her research by stating that "teaching as a profession is based on the idea that teaching demands knowledge of its own; it is, therefore, a job made of knowledge". She concludes the study by stating that professional knowledge is plural, encompasses different categories, and is acquired through learning and socialization processes that go through both life history and the teaching career.

We close this issue with the publication of the translation of the classic paper by Kenneth A. Merchant, entitled "The design of the corporate budgeting system: influences on managerial behavior and performance" (*"O modelo do sistema de orçamento corporativo: influências no comportamento e no desempenho gerencial"*) which aims to analyze the differences in budget systems, and how the different choices of model and use of the system are related to organizational performance, motivation and managerial attitudes.

The editors of RCO and everyone who participated directly and indirectly in the development of this issue, in particular researchers in the field of accounting and management of organizations, wish you a good read!

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