



EDITORIAL

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Welcome to Vol. 9, No. 2 of *LAJAM*. As of our previous issue (Vol. 9, No. 1) we have fully transitioned to online publication. To commemorate this occasion we thought it would be timely to conduct an evaluation of the publication and authorship patterns in *LAJAM* in its first eight years of existence (2002-2010). The article opening this issue (Palacios *et al.*) presents such a study. Our hope is that the results will be insightful for SOLAMAC and SOMEMMA towards assessing our contributions as a scientific community within the Latin American and global contexts. We also hope that they will motivate researchers to address important knowledge gaps and to work toward improving international collaboration through the establishment of regional expert networks that can more efficiently address the vexing conservation issues that aquatic mammals face in the region.

This issue also includes a number of interesting and diverse papers from all over Latin America, for a total of two reviews, two articles, four notes and six short communications. They cover topics such as a review of marine mammal records from Cuba (Whitt *et al.*); population surveys for Antillean manatees in Honduras (González-Socoloske *et al.*) and for botos in Colombia (Gómez-Salazar *et al.*); movements and occurrence of pinnipeds off Chile (Muñoz *et al.*, Pacheco *et al.*), Argentina (Daneri *et al.*) and Brazil (Oliveira *et al.*); cetacean strandings in Chile (Yates and Palavecino-Sepúlveda) and Ecuador (Félix *et al.*); cetacean occurrence within a Marine Protected Area in Colombia (Jiménez-Pinedo *et al.*); the observation of a humpback whale birth in Brazil (Ferreira *et al.*); the reintroduction in the wild of a giant river otter in Brazil (Lima and Marmontel); and finally, a report of incidental entanglement and hunting of dolphins for use as shark bait in Guatemala (Quintana-Rizzo). With this diversity of topics and geographic coverage there should be something in this issue for everyone, and I invite you to dive into it!

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