



EDITORIAL

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5597/lajam00188>

Welcome to Vol. 10, No. 1 of *LAJAM*. After a gap of almost a year, we are pleased to present you with the latest issue of the journal, whose mission is to promote and disseminate scientific knowledge concerning aquatic mammals and their environment in Latin America.

This gap may be explained by the significant changes that *LAJAM* has been undergoing in the past year. After almost six years at the helm, our Editor-in-Chief Daniel Palacios has stepped down due to other professional commitments. The Editorial Board and our membership would like to thank Daniel for the hard work and changes implemented to the journal during these years.

With this issue we also welcome Miriam Marmontel as the new Editor-in-Chief. Miriam has been associated with *LAJAM* since late 2011, when she was recruited as the Lead Guest Editor for a special issue on *Pteronura* (currently in final production!). She was invited to join the Board of Editors of *LAJAM* in July 2014, and became the interim Editor-in-Chief in August of last year.

During this transitional period, a dedicated group of Associate Editors has been keeping the editorial process running, alongside with finishing the production of two 'specials,' an issue dedicated to *Pteronura* biology and conservation, and a volume on *Tursiops* in the Southwest Atlantic, both of which should follow the publication of this regular issue shortly. In the next few months, we expect to publish the three issues that make up these specials. In order to remain true to the publication process itself as well as with our professional needs in terms of publication records, all four issues will have a 2015 date. Having said that, we are welcoming new submissions for our next regular issue. For future issues we expect to have a more expedited manuscript handling process, with articles being published individually as they are accepted and edited even before a full issue is closed, keeping up with the trend online journals are currently following.

In this issue we bring you two Articles, five Notes, two Short Communications and one *In Memoriam*. As more

field efforts are put into searching from the coastline to the open sea, new records of marine mammals continue to arise from various parts of South America! This is the case with *Ziphius* for Mexico (Cárdenas-Hinojosa *et al.*), *Feresa* for Trinidad and Tobago (Naranjit *et al.*), *Pseudorca* for Argentina (Bustos *et al.*) and several cetacean species for Suriname (De Boer). Foraging is the underlying subject of two notes, dealing with strand-feeding by dolphins in Ecuador (Jiménez and Alava) and sea lions and killer whales interacting with fisheries in Argentina (Seco Pon *et al.*). The role of disease is ever more present in aquatic mammal research: Van Bressems *et al.* review several skin conditions in cetaceans in South America, and Delgado *et al.* report *Leptospira* titers in freshwater manatees in Peru. Finally, manatee capture techniques and tracking are the focus of a note by González-Socoloske *et al.* Schiavini signs the piece on Natalie Goodall's life and scientific achievements.

We are able to bring this issue to completion thanks to a concerted effort by a group of members of our Editorial Board. In addition to their regular editorial responsibilities on assigned manuscripts, Maritza Sepúlveda, Federico Riet, Fernando Félix and Miriam Marmontel helped with additional tasks in the production of all manuscripts. Finally, we would be remiss if we didn't recognize the unwavering support of Yagu Pacha, which has funded the production of this issue.

Miriam Marmontel

Incoming Editor-in-Chief
Tefé, Amazonas, Brazil

and

Daniel M. Palacios

Outgoing Editor-in-Chief
Newport, Oregon, USA
August 2015