

Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that I write the first editorial of *Oecologia Australis*, a journal that succeeds *Oecologia Brasiliensis*. This change occurred due to the large growth of *Oecologia Brasiliensis* in recent years and its consolidation as an important journal known by the Brazilian ecological scientific community. *Oecologia Brasiliensis* occupied its own and little explored niche in Brazil, as prioritized the publication of reviews in ecology and related fields. As consequences of this growth can be deployed its accreditation by the Scopus database at the end of 2009 and the significant increase of submissions.

Despite the good results, we realized that *Oecologia Brasiliensis* could grow further and becomes a type of publication not only for Brazilians but also for Latin American and researchers from other continents. The Editorial Board held a strategic name change to *Oecologia Australis* and maintained the aim to publish reviews. The executive editors, graduate students from various Brazilian programs, will continue to assist with practical issues of articles, such as revising the rules, divulgation, maintenance of the homepage, and other important activities for the ongoing of the journal. The Editorial Board of *Oecologia Australis* was expanded with the inclusion of several researchers of other nationalities.

I also emphasize some goals that *Oecologia Australis* has been established as a major international journal in ecology: a) accreditation by the Scielo and ISI Thompson databases; b) increase in the visibility of the journal and consequently, c) increase in the submission of papers by researchers of Latin America and other continents. Achieving these goals will be a great challenge, but we have the support of the Council and the Editorial Board members, executive editors, authors, and the general public to achieve and improve them.

Alex Enrich-Prast
Editor in Chief