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Editorial

Health amidst socially and geographically located limits and challenges

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The proposal of our journal is, fundamentally, to help the reader who is looking for sound scientific information, but which, however, is contextualized in sociopolitical, historical, and ethically responsible reality.

In this sense, faced with profound transformations in contemporary societies, the articles that form this issue of the RECIIS, centered around global and transnational issues, local realities, cross-sectional arrangements, human tragedy, theoretical concerns, educational and scientific research practices, and legal limits and risks, bring original and stimulating contributions. It is hoped that they will stimulate debate and reflection by all those who, in their way, are committed to facing the changing relationships and interrelationships between information, communications, and innovation in health.

The authors try to offer some solutions, and clearly and rationally expose the meaning of the problems and difficulties involved in solving them, naturally without renouncing the development of a critical examination or taking a position. Starting with this issue, RECIIS will periodically publish supplements organized by professionals invited by the Scientific Editor to develop topics related to national and International research agendas in the health arena, thus offering readers a broader and deeper view of scientific knowledge regarding the featured theme.

Thus, RECIIS plans to be increasingly committed to its time, to the role of public research institutes in societies, becoming an element for the construction of a reality that contributes to the improvement of democracy, facing the socially and geographically located limits and challenges to health.

Also featured in this issue are book reviews of: Change of State. Information, Policy, and Power, by Sandra Braman, Alternative Pathways in Science and Industry: Activism, Innovation, and the Environment in an Era of Globalization by David Hess, and Memory Practices in the Sciences, by Geoffrey Bowker.

Enjoy the reading.

About the editor

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Carlos José Saldanha Machado holds a PhD in Social Anthropology from the Université Paris V – Sciences Humaines Sorbonne and a Master's in Production Engineering Sciences (focusing on Science and Technology Policy) from the Coordenação dos Programas de Pós-Graduação em Engenharia at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro. Currently, he is (1) Science and Technology Researcher at the Fundação Oswaldo Cruz and Head of the Laboratório de Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovação em Saúde at its Instituto de Comunicação e Informação Científica e Tecnológica em Saúde; (2) Professor on the Postgraduate Program (PhD) in Environmental Studies at the Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, responsible for the course on "Brazilian Environmental Policy"; (3) Institutional and Course Evaluator for the Ministry of Education for the Sistema Nacional de Avaliação da Educação Superior. He is active in the areas of sociology and anthropology, with emphasis on: science, technology and health innovation studies; management of health research; public policy in the area of health and the environment. Over the past 5 years he has published 4 books and numerous articles in Brazil. His new projects include research into: the new regime of production and regulation of scientific and technological knowledge in biomedicine; the recent changes in the configuration of bioscience, especially in the infrastructures of knowl-edge production; the local transposition of international models for the organization of biomedical research; the Fundação Oswaldo Cruz's policy for science, technology and innovation in health.