

EDITORS' NOTE

The editors of the *Revista de Historia Económica. Journal of Iberian and Latin American Economic History* are pleased to announce that, as from Issue number 1 of 2008, our journal has been included in the Social Science Citation Index, in Social Scisearch and in the Journal Citation Report/Social Science Edition.

We believe that this represents good news for the future of our journal, for Latin American economic history and, in general, for the international community of economic historians. The inclusion of the RHE-JILAEH means, firstly, an increase in the number of citations of economic history articles in the most prestigious data-base of scientific and academic studies in the world. Secondly, it represents a comparative improvement in the level of recognition of research carried out in the field of economic history and more especially in Latin American topics by the national and international institutions responsible for evaluating research. Finally, we believe that it also implies a recognition of the quality of the academic work carried out by more than a generation of economic historians who have worked enthusiastically in favour of the internationalization and academic excellence of Latin American economic history in the last thirty years.

The editors would like to express their most sincere appreciation to all those who, in one way or another, have collaborated with the journal during its 25-year history and thus contributed to this achievement.

Before this excellent piece of news, at the last meeting of the Journal's Editorial Board held at the *Congreso Internacional de la Asociación Española de Historia Económica* in Murcia on the 12th of September 2008, members of the Board highlighted what they saw as the strong points of the journal in the hope that such points would further develop: the work carried out to improve levels of editorial rigour and transparency, bilingualism, the improved academic service provided to authors, internationalization and the quality of the Editorial Board itself. The increase in the number of original articles received has made it possible to publish papers with an enhanced international scope, both in terms of the academic institutions of the authors and the global content of the studies themselves.

We believe that these points form a key part of the identity of the journal and intend to base our future improvement on these strengths.

The number of articles received increased from 30-40 in 2006-2007 to 40-50 in the year 2008 (see statistics). We have perceived a positive reaction from researchers to our «rapid review» policy which guarantees an initial indication of interest on the part of the journal within 30 days of submission (see review process). The review process of more than 50 per cent of

our articles is completed within four months. The increase in the number of texts submitted and the stability of the rejection rate at around 42 per cent have resulted in an improved stock of accepted articles under review which has made it possible to improve the planning of future issues. The percentage of articles received related with Latin American or global issues has remained stable with respect to the year 2007 at around 55 per cent.

We would also like, in this issue, to inform our readers and collaborators of the forthcoming changes on the Editorial Board with effect from the next edition. This renewal, which has been fully discussed and agreed by the current Board will become a permanent process with the objective of guaranteeing an active and renewed participation of members of the international and Latin American community in the management of the journal. The idea is to renew a third of the Editorial Board every three years. We are proud to announce that the current members of the Board are fully committed to the journal, with the result that the current changes are limited to the inclusion of new members with the responsibility of bringing in new ideas and enthusiasm.

We would not like to conclude this note without expressing our thanks to the referees who have worked with us throughout 2008 (see thanks to referees, p. 13) and those who collaborated during 2007 and 2006. Without their professionalism and academic generosity it would not be possible for the journal to survive and grow.

STATISTICS FOR EVALUATION PERIODS AND THE SITUATION OF ORIGINAL
RESEARCH PAPERS DURING 2008

Length of evaluation process	2008		2008	
	Total articles		Articles submitted in 2008	
Under 3 months	24	44%	19	46%
Between 3 and 4 months	4	7%	2	5%
Over 4 months	11	20%	5	12%
Under evaluation	15	29%	15	37%
TOTAL	55	100%	41	100%
Results	2008		2008	
	Total articles		Articles submitted in 2008	
Accepted (published)	14	25%	7	17%
Peer rejection	8	15%	4	10%
Under evaluation	18	33%	17	41%
Editor's rejection	15	27%	13	32%
TOTAL	55	100%	41	100%

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND TOPICS OF TOTAL ARTICLES IN 2008

Distribution regional:	
% Global History	18.00%
% Latin American	37.00%
% Iberian Peninsula	45.00%
Distribución temas:	
Agriculture, farming and fishing	2.00%
Economic growth and development	9.00%
Demography, population and education	7.00%
Public Funds; monetary and financial history	11.00%
Corporate history	9.00%
Methodology, historiography and sources	0.00%
Mining, industry, energy and construction	7.00%
Miscellaneous	0.00%
Economic thought	15.00%
Prices, salaries, income and profit.	5.00%
Foreign sector	23.00%
Transport, communication and national trade	12.00%
	100.00%
REJECTION RATE	
% Articles rejected (total)	42%
% Articles rejected (received during 2008)	41%