

Proceedings of

ISSI 2009

– the 12th International Conference of the
International Society for Scientometrics and Informetrics

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
July 14-17, 2009

Volume 1

Edited by Birger Larsen and Jacqueline Leta

Published by BIREME/PAHO/WHO and
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

2009

Printed edition under the auspices of
CAPES – Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior,
Ministério da Educação
Brazil

Cover by BIREME/PAHO/WHO

Proceedings of ISSI 2009, volume 1
ISSN: 2175-1935

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Printed in São Paulo, Brazil, June, 2009

Preface

The 12th biennial International Conference on Scientometrics and Informetrics is held under the auspices of the International Society of Scientometrics and Informetrics (ISSI). The Society aims to encourage communication and exchange of professional information in the field of Scientometrics and Informetrics, to improve standards, theory and practice in all areas of the discipline, to stimulate research, education and training, and to enhance the public perception of the discipline. The most recent ISSI conferences took place Beijing, China (2003), Stockholm, Sweden (2005) and Madrid, Spain (2007).

The objective of the Rio de Janeiro ISSI 2009 conference is provide an international open forum for scientists, research managers and authorities, information and communication related professionals to debate the current status and advancements of Scientometrics theory and applications. The conference will bring a key contribution to the socialization of scientometrics in developing countries, particularly within LA&C (Latin America and Caribbean) scientific related community and it will contribute to promote international collaboration. In addition the conference features two distinguished invited speakers, and two winners of the Derek John De Solla Price award.

In total the conference received a record breaking number of 254 submissions for reviewing, out of which 118 were full papers, 52 research-in-progress papers and 84 were posters. All submissions were thoroughly reviewed by members the International Scientific Programme Committee. Some 83 submissions were not deemed to be sufficient developed for publication and had to be rejected, and another 9 were withdrawn by their authors. The final program includes two keynote presentations, 69 full papers, 29 research in progress papers and 64 posters. The overall acceptance rate was 66%.

The papers in the proceedings are arranged by the order of presentations during the conference. The first volume of the proceedings includes papers and key-notes presented during the first two days. The second volume contains the papers presented the third day, as well as all the posters (the latter loosely arranged alphabetically by first author).

We are very grateful to all authors for submitting their work, and all members of the Programme Committee for their cooperation and time spent reviewing submissions. Great thanks go to Jane Russell and Martin Meyer who have organized the poster review process. Special thanks go to BIREME/PAHO/WHO (Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information of the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization) for irreplaceable help during the preparation of the programme and proceedings.

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