

# Presentation

UNDOUBTEDLY, interdisciplinary research techniques have come to stay in all areas of human knowledge from the natural sciences to the humanities. The power of their research methods has proven to be very effective in dealing with highly complex problems. The number of publications on research of this type grows at a remarkable rate each year. It is estimated that in the area of social sciences the number of works published in 2010 that involved a cross between disciplines reached more than 40% of the total of publications. The use of the word *interdiscipline* has grown significantly since 1992, as shown by Google's search engine Ngram Viewer.

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This growth can only be explained by the existence of an increasing number of research groups with an interdisciplinary vocation in their academic production. More and more universities are hosting institutions in whose name the interdisciplinary voice is recognized.

A notable example of these institutions is the Interdisciplinary Space of the University of the Republic of Uruguay (<http://www.ei.udelar.edu.uy/render/Page/index/pageId/789>). Founded in 2009, it has developed an excellent performance in the research and dissemination of interdisciplinary projects, as well as in the promotion of educational projects with an interdisciplinary inspiration. In 2016, they took on the task of organizing the 1st Latin American Congress on Interdisciplinary Research and Higher Education, which had considerable success in disseminating the regional effort in this area.

Not claiming to be the memoirs of that academic event, this issue of our magazine includes a group of the best works presented at the event, complemented by an interview with some of the top voices in food security worldwide and the reviews to a pair of works essential for those who are interested in the task of research and interdisciplinary education.

The meeting of Montevideo was marked by a very strong commitment to the inclusion of the *interdiscipline* in the field of higher education. This is why we have baptized in such a way this number of our journal. ■

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Editor