

## PECEN Publications in the Field of Biological Sciences: Present and Future

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Biological Sciences is the discipline that studies the most diverse aspects of microscopic and macroscopic life forms on earth. This vast field of studies enables biologists to follow numerous paths according to their professional interest.

Biological Sciences has made rapid advances in Biochemistry, Biophysics, Biotechnology, Botany, Cell Biology, Ecology, Ethnobiology, Evolutionary Biology, Genetics, Immunology, Mycology, Microbiology, Morphology, Parasitology, Physiology and Zoology. In some cases, the expansion of different fields of Biological Sciences is tied to the crisis of biodiversity and environmental problems, such as the extinction of species, the introduction of invasive exotic species, increasing habitat loss and degradation, the overexploitation of natural resources, pollution, diseases and human-induced climate change.

In 2017, **Pesquisa e Ensino em Ciências Exatas e da Natureza/Research and Teaching in Exact and Natural Sciences (PECEN)** received 28 manuscripts for evaluation and published 18 papers, all related to the field of Biological Sciences. An analysis of the papers published in year shows that the field of Zoology (branch of Biology that studies the animal kingdom) has been the flagship of publications with 7 papers so far. Among the contributions within Zoology published in **PECEN** are papers involving the following sub-fields of knowledge: (2) Morphology of Recent Groups; (4) Taxonomy of Recent Groups; and (3) “ecological interactions” – phenomenon and object of study also in the field of Ecology. In 2017, **PECEN** also published important contributions in the fields of Ecology (2), Environmental Sciences (1), Health and Biological Science (1), Mycology (2) and Science Teaching (2).

Contributions in the fields of biodiversity and science teaching will undoubtedly continue to play an important role in the scientific production of **PECEN** in both qualitative and quantitative terms. However, given the vast field of Biological Sciences, we expect a substantial increase in the number of publications on the most diverse subjects in 2018.

It is important to emphasize that **PECEN** is a multidisciplinary journal that receives contributions from diverse fields, such as Agrarian, Biomedical, Chemical, Earth, Environmental, Health and Exact and Natural Sciences. The fundamental mission is to strengthen multidisciplinary publications through scientific and theoretical-methodological studies as well as thematic literature reviews. Regardless of the number of submissions, the main factor for publication in **PECEN** is the importance and quality of the contributions.

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all authors who published in Volume 1 (Number 1–2) of **PECEN** and thank those who made contributions in the terms of scientific/academic, teaching and social contexts. I would also like to thank the associate editors for their participation in the evaluation process of the manuscripts. Lastly, let me take the opportunity to invite students, teachers and readers to participate in upcoming editions of **PECEN** through the submission of manuscripts on the most diverse areas of sciences.

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