

## **Editorial**

*Acta Microscópica* is now reaching a third period of editorial development after the extraordinary editorial efforts of Susan Thai in Venezuela, as Founding Editor and Wanderley Souza, as Editor-in-Chief in Brazil. Since 1992 until now *Acta Microscópica* has been the official journal of affiliated national electron microscopy societies in Latin America, sponsored by the Interamerican Committee of Societies for Electron Microscopy (CIASEM). We are now to continue the publication of this journal under the auspices and financial contribution of Zulia University in Maracaibo, Venezuela.

It is therefore my privilege to welcome your active and enthusiastic participation contributing with original articles, reviews, short communications, book reviews and news on scientific meetings and courses. I urge you to collaborate with our journal

overcoming the current and increasing difficulties of scientific and technological research in developing countries. Through the efforts of all member of our affiliated societies we can ensure the mission of the journal: to communicate advances in microscopy and to become an international forum in the world for dissemination and exchange of information in all aspects of microscopy.

In the year 2000, Benjamin Hidalgo acting as Guest Editor published the Supplement No. 1 of *Acta Microscópica* on the occasion of the IX Venezuelan Congress on Electron Microscopy, held in Cumana, November 5-8<sup>th</sup>. Walter Jose Botta Filho, President of Brazilian Society of Microscopy and Microanalysis has also coordinated the publication of the Supplement No. 2, with the proceeding of Micromat 2000 and First Latin American Symposium

on Scanning Probe Microscopy. The center piece of this year is the celebration of the VI Interamerican Congress on Electron Microscopy in Veracruz, Mexico, October 7-11<sup>th</sup>, a future opportunity to publish a new supplement.

Those interested in microscopy and related scientific disciplines are encouraged to participate. Please send me feedback. Your help, suggestions and ideas to reach our main goal: to make of *Acta Microscópica* a peer-review indexed journal, affiliated to the most important scientific international indexes, in order to reach a high level of visibility and an appreciable impact factor.

In closing I will express to you that we are carrying out simultaneous activities to publish also *Acta Microscópica* as an electronic journal.

OJ Castejón  
**Editor-in-Chief**