

Editor's Word

Dear reader, I would like to be happier today but I write this letter with great regret because of the loss of Professor Gilberto Martins, who made significant changes in accounting research and created two important congresses in the accounting field in Brazil, the USP International Conference in Accounting and the Congress of Scientific Initiation in Accounting. We are delivering the first issue of 2023, and I want to congratulate the papers published in this issue. It is an arduous path for everyone but immensely gratifying. An analysis of the last year's issues reveals a more inclusive REPeC, with papers from different states from our country and abroad, more female authors, and papers that possibly would not have a chance in other journals, though not ignoring the quality of research. This first issue of 2023 will be no different, as we begin with an editorial written by Professors Mara Jane Contrera Malacrida and Mariana Mitiyo Yamamoto. This guest editorial brings the story and experiences of the first female Head of the Department of Accounting and Actuarial Science at FEA/USP. It brings the view on the other side of the window seen by her advisor and friend and the mirror view when we see ourselves on the journey. I hope this editorial brings hope and shows the possibilities to so many other women in our accounting, business, academic, and everyday environments.

Larissa Costa, Paulo Lustosa, and Jorge Niyama wrote the second paper. It aims to perform a comparative analysis of the different ways of reducing the carrying amount of goodwill in light of the IASB Discussion Paper/2020/1. Based on the stakeholders' claims to the IASB, the impairment test, the current goodwill reduction method, presents several limitations, such as high cost, late recognition, and the shielding effect, which implies a reduction in the quality of accounting information. Therefore, this study sheds light on an alternative consonant with a new approach to goodwill developed by Professor Lustosa, the reduction by proportional write-off, to more relevantly and reliably represent the companies' economic and financial situation.

The third paper is written by Julio Machado and aims to analyze the influence of the level of intangibility on accounting conservatism. In this paper, the author considers evidence that the valuation of shares might influence discretionary accounting practices and that recorded intangible assets may improve the quality of information. Among the results, intangibility based on market value negatively correlated with conservatism. On the other hand, intangibility based on book value showed a positive relationship. Additionally, companies with greater intangibility based on market value did not show the conservatism attribute.

Elizio dos Reis, Hugo Ferreira, Kelly Nunes, and Jacqueline Veneroso wrote the fourth paper. It aimed to verify in what ways the accruals calculated according to the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flows Statement approaches are similar. The results showed a difference between the two approaches, indicating that they are not statistically similar. When applying the cash flow prediction model, the approach to accruals calculated by the Cash Flow Statement proved to be more adequate than the Balance Sheet approach.

The fifth paper was written by Rudolph Teixeira, Adriano Rodrigues, and Marcelo Alvaro. The paper's objective was to verify whether the defined-benefit (DB) and variable-contribution (VC) plans of Complementary Private Pension Funds in Brazil tend to present solvency equal to or above the established standard ratio when they are close to reaching it. The results showed considerable discontinuity in the histogram distributions between the class that includes the equilibrium coverage index and the class just below it. A statistically positive solvency volume was also found for the private companies' plans, which are governed by a governance structure concentrated around sponsors, and for plans located in the Federal District and in the states of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, which, on average, have higher administrative expenses than plans situated in other states.

The sixth paper, written by Thiago Sena, Sheizi de Freitas, and Jorge de Santana Jr., aimed to verify the relationship between the readability level of explanatory notes and earnings management practices among companies listed on [B]³ between 2010 and 2018. The results show no statistically significant relationship between the readability of explanatory notes and earnings management levels compared to companies that most frequently manage earnings. The results are robust, considering additional tests show coefficients in the same direction and significance.

Finally, I would like to emphasize that REPeC is a publication linked not only to the education field but to several areas, as shown in its objectives: Financial, Managerial, Public, Audit, and Taxes, among others.

Also, I thank all the researchers who submitted their papers to REPeC and the referees, who are always very collaborative. Congratulations to those who had their papers approved because the demand is quite high, and the path toward the final publication is very arduous.

Thanks again to the readers. I hope you will enjoy this new edition. Have a great 2023 with many quality studies, new submissions, and, consequently, new publications.

Academic greetings,

Gerlando Lima, Ph.D.
Editor in Chief