

## THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNERGY BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES AND COMPANIES AS A SOURCE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES

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The basis for any country to promote technological innovation processes is to invest in a strong scientific and technical capacity (Homma et al., 2002). In this sense, throughout its history, Brazil has supported research activities and the formation of critical capital, resulting in an enormous potential for technological innovation in multiple areas. As a result, the protagonism of national technological development becomes the responsibility of the State, which encourages relations between research institutions and the companies of the environment in which they operate. In this scenario, in the case of Brazil, the Institutions of Science and Technology (ICTs) stand out, among them the universities, seen as generators of new knowledge (Niosi, 1999, Cripps et al. 1999, Shane, 2004).

On the other hand, the vision of the finite resources available on our planet has resulted in efforts by companies and other institutions to calibrate their work methods to improve their levels of competitiveness and to face the new times. In this way, a world full of emerging technologies enters the scene. The new times require and will increasingly demand technological innovation in all work and research models.

For this reason, universities and companies start a process of institutional synergy to jointly propitiate this new scenario. Universities are strengthened by representing fertile areas for “scientific and technological opportunities” for innovation. Companies, in turn, are environments of “resources optimization” since their existence is based on the capitalist economy and because they are the direct link to society.

Within this context, the current issue of the Journal *Sistemas e Gestão* addresses issues such as “Project Management in a Research Institution”, “Performance Evaluation” and “Aspects concerning Management Optimization”, to highlight the importance and gains for both actors when arranged in partnerships.

In the articles, aspects referring to the dynamic business and innovative academic environment are directly or indirectly addressed, promoting the stimulus for modernization, allowing an even closer approach to these worlds, and thus generating benefits for both sides.

Finally, this issue also describes, through studies on extreme events, climatological data relating to the two largest oil basins in Brazil, to support the development of procedures and technologies to mitigate damage caused by accidents in their operations, highlighting the importance of research that contributes to this end.

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