

Profesión

In the last few issues of *Papeles del Psicólogo* we mentioned how appropriate it would be to make some changes to the running and the content of the journal, at a time when the Spanish Psychological Association reaches the respectable age of 25.

As we have stressed, we consider that the profession continues to need an organ for disseminating advances in Psychology in the applied context, whose content bears the hallmark of relevance and immediacy for professionals, and which at the same time displays the scientific rigour demanded of a science characterized by its critical perspective on reality and its foundation in empirical data.

We have also argued that, while basic research is essential for a science to make progress, it is equally necessary to be able to translate scientific findings into concrete professional solutions; and that *Papeles del Psicólogo* should fulfil the dual objective of maintaining the highest methodological quality and theoretical foundation in the issues dealt with and of contributing technical developments and practical applications to meet the needs of professionals. It must be, if it is to provide a service to the profession and to society, a journal of applied research, open to all the areas of Psychology, which offers solutions, discussion, experience, guidelines, instruments and methods relevant to the problems and issues professionals encounter in their everyday practice.

The aims are ambitious, and even if the resources available are not ideal, we should not be deterred from trying; and if we are to achieve our goals, the initiative and collaboration of all is required. The achievement of our aims seems all the more possible when we observe the social recognition attained by Spanish Psychology professionals and the respect we have earned in the international context – the fruits of a decisive commitment to improvement, to high standards and to progress in all the applied fields of our discipline.

In turn, *Papeles del Psicólogo* states its commitment to renew its vocation as a medium of communication for all members of the Psychology fraternity in Spain, as a channel of ongoing education that contributes to the acquisition of the knowledge and practical competence necessary for meeting the new demands of the profession. We thus invite all our colleagues with something to contribute toward these goals to participate in this noble undertaking.

