EDITORIAL

The journal "Environmental Engineering: research and technology" presents its first issue of 2007 with eight articles on different themes from the environmental field developed in five Brazilian states: São Paulo, Mato Grosso, Tocantins, Paraíba and Santa Catarina.

Consolidating the journal's national breadth, studies developed by researchers from the following Brazilian education and research institutions are presented: Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC), Federal Technology University of Paraná (UTFPR), Federal University of Mato Grosso (UFMT), Federal University of Campina Grande (UFCG), Federal Center of Technology Education of Paraíba (CEFET/PB), Engineering School of the University of São Paulo at São Carlos (EESC/USP), Agricultural Engineering Faculty and Higher Center of Technology Education of the State University of Campinas (Unicamp), Federal University of Maranhão (UFMA), and the Federal Agrotechnical School of Araguatins.

Considering the studies published in this issue, the first analyzes the performance of the upflow anaerobic sludge blanket reactor in the treatment of swine wastewater.

The second article deals with the evaluation of water contamination in the Cabelo River, in João Pessoa (PB). Along similar lines, the third article analyzes the concentration of heavy metals and trace elements in river sediments and flooded areas in the Ribeira do Iguape River basin, in the state of São Paulo.

The fourth article characterizes the leaching of the sanitary landfill in the city of Limeira (SP), while the fifth discusses management of solid wastes in the municipality of Araguatins, in the state of Tocantins.

Following these are reports on two studies from the field of geoprocessing regarding the evaluation of classes of vegetative cover and land use in the municipality of Itaporanga, and the study of the desertification process in the municipality of Cabaceiras, both located in the state of Paraíba.

The last article in the issue deals with environmental accidents in the highway transport of dangerous cargo in the state of Mato Grosso.

The articles affirm the multidisciplinary nature of the journal, with themes ranging from soil contamination and waste treatment, management and planning, to safety and environmental accidents.

The editors' objective in upcoming issues is to consolidate the publication of multidisciplinary themes, guaranteeing the place of "Environmental Engineering: research

and technology" as one of the pioneering publications in the field of Environmental Engineering, in the national context.

We would therefore like to thank all the researchers and professionals who have published articles in these past three years and contributed significantly to the journal's success. We take the opportunity to once again invite the entire environmental community to use the "Environmental Engineering: research and technology" as an instrument for communicating their work.

> Fábio Augusto Gomes Vieira Reis Gerson Araujo de Medeiros Editors