

## 60 years of the Business Administration Program of the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá Campus: Trajectory, Innovation and Projection by INNOVAR Journal

*Carlos Alberto Rodríguez-Romero<sup>1</sup>*

**JEL CODES**

M10, M20, M40

**RECEIVED**

10/03/2025

**APPROVED**

20/03/2025

**PUBLISHED**

01/04/2025

**SECTION**

Editorial

Esta obra se publica bajo una licencia  
Creative Commons Atribución  
No Comercial Sin Derivadas  
4.0 Internacional (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0).

**Disclosures:** The authors declare no  
institutional or personal conflicts of  
interest.

**Resumen:** As part of the 60th anniversary of the Business Administration Program (PAE, by this spanish initials) at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá Campus, this 96th issue of INNOVAR pays tribute to an institutional trajectory that has linked academic training, research, and the dissemination of knowledge relevant to the country and the region. The editorial note traces the shared origins of the PAE and INNOVAR journal, highlighting their role in the professionalization of management in Colombia, the consolidation of a rigorous editorial policy, and their international reach. Throughout its pages, it reflects on the contributions of special issues to the articulation between academia and practice, interaction with Ibero-American scientific networks, and the impact on curriculum content and researcher training. This anniversary invites us to renew our commitment to open, socially relevant, and epistemically plural science, reaffirming the editorial and academic legacy that has characterized INNOVAR and PAE in recent decades.

**Palabras clave:** academic networks, administration, Business Administration Program, Innovar journal, open science.

Citación sugerida: Rodríguez-Romero, C.A. (2025). Editorial No. 96. *Innovar*, 35(96). e121310.  
<https://doi.org/10.15446/innovar.v35n96.121310>

<sup>1</sup> Ph.D. en Ciencias de Gestión; Director, Área Curricular De Gestión Y Organizaciones. Profesor asociado de la Escuela de Administración y Contaduría Pública de la Facultad de Ciencias Económicas, Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Grupo de investigación GRIEGO. Integrante del comité editorial de la Revista INNOVAR; [carodriguezro@unal.edu.co](mailto:carodriguezro@unal.edu.co); <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5007-8293>.

## Editorial No. 96

**Resumen:** En el marco de los 60 años del Programa de Administración de Empresas (PAE) de la Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Sede Bogotá, este número 96 de *INNOVAR* rinde homenaje a una trayectoria institucional que ha vinculado la formación académica, la investigación y la divulgación de conocimiento pertinente para el país y la región. La nota editorial recorre el origen compartido entre el PAE y la Revista *INNOVAR*, destacando su papel en la profesionalización de la administración en Colombia, la consolidación de una política editorial rigurosa y su proyección internacional. A lo largo de sus páginas, se reflexiona sobre los aportes de los números especiales a la articulación entre academia y práctica, la interacción con redes científicas iberoamericanas y la incidencia en los contenidos curriculares y en la formación de investigadores. Este aniversario invita a renovar el compromiso con una ciencia abierta, socialmente relevante y epistémicamente plural, reafirmando el legado editorial y académico que ha caracterizado a *INNOVAR* y al PAE en las últimas décadas.

**Keywords:** administración, ciencia abierta, Programa de Administración de Empresas, Revista Innovar, redes académicas.

## Editorial No. 96

**Resumo:** No âmbito dos 60 anos do Programa de Administração de Empresas (PAE) da Universidade Nacional da Colômbia, sede Bogotá, esta edição nº 96 da *INNOVAR* presta homenagem a uma trajetória institucional que tem ligado a formação acadêmica, a investigação e a divulgação de conhecimento relevante para o país e a região. A nota editorial percorre a origem comum entre o PAE e a Revista *INNOVAR*, destacando o seu papel na profissionalização da administração na Colômbia, a consolidação de uma política editorial rigorosa e a sua projeção internacional. Ao longo de suas páginas, reflete-se sobre as contribuições das edições especiais para a articulação entre academia e prática, a interação com redes científicas ibero-americanas e a incidência nos conteúdos curriculares e na formação de investigadores. Este aniversário convida a renovar o compromisso com uma ciência aberta, socialmente relevante e epistemicamente plural, reafirmando o legado editorial e acadêmico que caracterizou a *INNOVAR* e o PAE nas últimas décadas.

**Palavras-chave:** administração, ciência aberta, Programa de Administração de Empresas, redes académicas, revista Innovar.

## 1. Introduction: Convergence of anniversaries and institutional maturity

The commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Business Administration Program (PAE, by this spanish initials) of the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá Campus, represents much more than a simple anniversary. It is an opportunity to recognize a historical process of institutional maturation, in which the training of professionals, research and dissemination of knowledge have gone hand in hand to transform the business and social reality of the country. This anniversary coincides with a moment of strategic maturity for INNOVAR Journal, a publication that, since its founding in 1991, has been a witness and protagonist of the main milestones of the PAE and the School of Economics (FCE, by this spanish initials). The history of PAE and INNOVAR have been intertwined since their origin by a shared conviction: the need to produce and disseminate contextualized, rigorous and socially relevant knowledge, capable of dialoguing with national and global challenges.

## 2. Genesis and institutional consolidation: from professionalization to situated research

The emergence of PAE and INNOVAR Journal was not fortuitous, but the result of a process of professionalization of administration in Colombia that dates back to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Figures such as Francisco Javier Cisneros, with his strategic vision and management skills, and Alejandro López, who introduced the principles of scientific administration and Fayolism adapted to the national reality, laid the foundations for the training of administrators with a modern and humanistic perspective. The foundation of the National School of Commerce in 1905, the influence of the Kemmerer Mission in 1923 and the creation of the Institute of Economic Sciences in 1945 and the School of Economic Sciences in 1952, paved the way for the creation, in 1965, of the Business Administration career and, in 1966, of the Research Center for Development (CID, by this spanish initials).

The creation of the INNOVAR Journal in 1991 responded to two gaps detected by the PAE faculty: the absence of a specialized medium that reflected the administrative thinking of the National University and the difficulty of inserting local research in regional and international academic circuits. The first editorial committee, formed by pioneering professors such as Hernando Ceballos Giraldo, Gustavo Adolfo Acuña, Carlos Martínez Fajardo, Juan Abel Lara Fajardo, Manuel Fulgencio Jiménez and Francisco Rodríguez Vargas, defined criteria for anonymous peer review when this practice was still incipient in the country. The choice of the journal's title and the first editorial, "It is time to Innovate", anticipated the transforming vocation that has characterized its pages: to explore new theoretical and methodological approaches to enrich the understanding of administrative phenomena from a Latin American, critical and situated perspective.

### 3. Editorial quality and indexing itinerary: From national consolidation to international projection

INNOVAR's qualitative leap was articulated around two rigorously planned indexing phases. During the first phase (1997-2007), the journal was included in Publindex-Colciencias and in regional databases such as Clase and Redalyc, which required strengthening the journal's periodicity, professionalizing style correction and adopting APA standards. The second phase (2008-2020) focused on internationalization: the bilingual version was created, the OJS system was adopted and the double blind evaluation flows were fine-tuned. In 2010, INNOVAR achieved inclusion in SciELO; in 2014, it gained entry to Scopus; and in 2017 it was listed in Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science). These milestones are not mere seals of prestige; they constitute an accountability mechanism that guarantees editorial transparency, strengthens publication ethics and increases the citability of authors linked to FCE's training programs. As a result, the journal's bibliometric indicators show a cumulative citation rate above the Latin American average in the areas of administration, business and accounting.

### 4. National impact: Articulation between academia and praxis, and the role of Special Issues

In the Colombian context, INNOVAR has made a decisive contribution to the dialogue between academic research and the management needs of the public and private sectors. Throughout its history, the journal has devoted special issues to topics of high relevance to the field of management and organizational studies.

Issue 11 of INNOVAR Journal, although not classified as a special issue, is of particular importance due to its focus on the relevance of Taylorism and its impact on the research community. In a context where Taylorist practices seemed to have been overcome, this issue offered a critical and updated analysis of its persistent influence on organizations and management thinking, with outstanding contributions by Carlos Martínez Fajardo ("Modern management and Taylorism in the third millennium"), Anita Weiss de Belalcázar ("Taylorism's validity? From statements to reality"), Bernardo Parra R. ("Will Taylor survive in the third millennium?") and Ricardo Romero Urrego ("The development of knowledge and the management of organizations: about the discussion on Taylorism"). Generating a relevant debate on the need to rethink management models and labor relations in light of contemporary challenges. Its content stimulated academic and professional reflection on the relevance of Taylorist principles in the 21st century, consolidating itself as a reference for understanding the evolution of management thinking and its impact on society.

However, the dynamics of recent years introduce us to a new logic, a new dynamic, a new emphasis; examples of this are issues 78 and 79, which focused on the contributions of articles to the field of organizational studies; issue 82, dedicated to critical accounting in Latin America and its

relationship with the Global North; issue 85, which collected in its editorial note reflections of former editors on the achievements and challenges of the journal in its first 30 years; issues 86 and 87, which explored marketing and consumer behavior during and after the pandemic; issue 88, which in its editorial note reflected on the role of the FCE journals in the dissemination of academic thought in its 70-year history; issue 90, which presented an overview of Latin American discussions in organizational studies; and issue 94, which highlighted the importance of research in financial decision-making in emerging countries. Likewise, issue 98, which is in editorial production, will present contributions for the discussion of the social practice of producing sustainability reports in emerging countries.

The coordination of these special issues has been mainly the responsibility of faculty teams from the School of Management and Public Accounting, who have assumed the role of Special Editors, where their work has been essential to articulate research agendas, promote inter-institutional collaboration and ensure the quality and relevance of the articles published. In addition, these issues have allowed INNOVAR to position itself as a space of reference for the discussion of contemporary and emerging topics, facilitating the circulation of ideas and the construction of relevant research agendas for the academic environment of the country and the region.

It is worth highlighting the importance of the articles published in INNOVAR on the understanding of SMES and economic groups in the country and their dynamics in the national business fabric. These works have contributed to a deeper and more critical vision of business structures, economic concentration processes and the evolution of conglomerates in Colombia, providing valuable inputs for the formulation of public policies and business decision-making.

## **5. Ibero-American projection: Epistemological networks, South-South dialogue and epistemological diversification.**

A relevant milestone in the international projection of INNOVAR Journal was its active link, at the beginning of the last decade, with the International Network of Business and Management Journals (INBAM). This association, which brings together editors of leading scientific journals in the field of business and management worldwide, allowed INNOVAR to participate in high-level dialogue and editorial cooperation. The presence of members of its editorial committee in international congresses organized by INBAM, such as the one held in Lisbon in 2013 with the presence of Professor Edison Jair Duque as Editor of Innovar, facilitated the exchange of good practices, the adoption of international editorial standards and the strengthening of scientific collaboration networks. This experience not only contributed to the professionalization of INNOVAR's editorial processes and its consolidation in global indexing systems, but also enhanced its visibility and prestige in the Ibero-American and world community.

The editorial strategy of internationalization was not limited to the translation of articles. INNOVAR forged alliances with the Network of Latin American Researchers in Organizational Studies (RILEO) and with the European-Latin American Management Association (EULAMA), which resulted in special issues co-edited with academics from Brazil, Spain, Mexico and Portugal. This openness has had an impact on epistemological diversification: today the journal publishes quantitative research on corporate finance as well as critical ethnographies of labor and gender in Andean SMES. To this is added the adoption of the CC-BY license, which facilitates circulation in open access repositories such as e-Publicaciones UNAM or Digital CSIC. The result is an international collaboration index that exceeds 45% of recent production, a figure well above the average for Latin American journals in the same category.

## **6. Synergies with the curriculum and research groups: Training, research and academic cohesion.**

The feedback between the journal and the curricular program is manifested in at least three fundamental dimensions. First, the findings published in INNOVAR influence the updating of subjects such as Organizational Theory, International Finance, Strategy, Business History and Social Entrepreneurship, ensuring that academic content is aligned with the most recent advances in the discipline. Secondly, the journal serves as a "showcase" for researchers in training; since 2007, more than 30 master's theses and a very significant number of articles from doctoral theses developed in the field of Management Sciences, Administration Sciences or Management Sciences, abroad or in the country, have resulted in published articles, strengthening research training, the popularization of knowledge and the social impact of the program. Thirdly, INNOVAR acts as an instrument of cohesion among the eight research groups attached to the School of Management and Public Accounting, facilitating the circulation of agendas and promoting inter-group projects that have obtained national and international funding.

## **7. Future Challenges: Open science, societal relevance and plurality**

Despite the achievements, the journal and the program face challenges that define its strategic agenda for the next decade. Among them are the full adoption of open science practices, including the availability of data and codes for replication; the deepening of the decolonial perspective to avoid dependence on metrics focused on the Global North; the enhancement of multimedia formats (podcast, video-abstracts) to bring research closer to non-specialized audiences; and the consolidation of peer review with a focus on diversity and inclusion, seeking equitable participation of gender and geographical origin.

## 8. By way of conclusion: A shared legacy and renewed responsibility

The sixty years of the Business Administration Program and more than thirty years of INNOVAR demonstrate that the creation of relevant knowledge requires solid publishing institutions and committed academic communities. The journal, born to reflect the management thinking of the FCE, has become an indispensable Ibero-American platform for discussing the organizational challenges of our time. Celebrating this anniversary implies renewing our commitment to excellence, plurality and social responsibility, principles that guided that first group of visionary professors and that remain valid today in each issue of INNOVAR. To honor this legacy is also to assume the responsibility of continuing to build on it, training professionals and generating knowledge that will contribute to a more just, equitable and sustainable country.