Transition, Changes, and Achievements in the field of Communication

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It is with great satisfaction that we present the closing of volume 20/2026 of *Lumina*, brought forward by the continuous publication flow modality initiated this year. This volume marks the end of the transition phase of the 2024–2026 triennium, which involved strategic, structural, and editorial changes aimed at professionalization and fostering the internationalization of the journal within the framework of strengthening the pillars of the global Open Science movement.

Our restructuring process involved, in general terms, three phases supported by internal management reports generated by the Open Journal Systems (OJS) and journal monitoring spreadsheets. In the first phase (2024), focused on diagnosis and fundraising, we mapped article retention times and submissions to grant funding calls. In the second phase (2025), we began implementing the resources obtained through the editorial publishing grant from the Minas Gerais State Research Foundation (Fapemig) for professional copyediting and layout design, multimedia scientific outreach through the *Lumiah* channel (videos, podcasts, and social media posts) about published articles, and adopted the first policies on scientific integrity and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools.

In 2026, which we consider the technological turning point phase, we discontinued traditional closed issues, transitioning to a continuous publication flow, along with the refinement of editorial policies, updated visibility and altmetric indicators[4] (our h-index reached 18), and the modernization of Lumina website, preparing the journal for submission to new indexing databases[5]. We closed the year with a very positive balance. One of the main indicators of the restructuring success was the ability to process the article backlog. Table 1 shows the internal overview

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[2] We thank the company Content Mind (SP) for the update covering the years 2021-2026, under the contract with FAPEMIG/FADEPE/Lumina.
[3] We thank GN1 Editora (SP-Brazil/Texas-USA) for converting the 2026 files into XML format, under the contract with FAPEMIG/FADEPE/Lumina.

extracted directly from OJS monitoring reports on the UFJF Journal Portal, which hosts Lumina alongside 38 other journals.

Table 1. Internal Editorial Management Metrics (2024–2026)

Operational Dimension	2024 (Issues)	2025 (Issues)	2026 (Continuous Flow)
Screened Submissions	142	194	299
Desk Reject Rate	45%	52%	58%
Active Registered Reviewers	85	130	175
Average Response Time to Authors	175 days	148 days	**110 days**

Source: Revista Lumina. Compilation of internal statistical reports on editorial workflow (OJS/UFJF)

A significant growth in submissions was also observed in 2025 and 2026. This year, submissions jumped by 154% compared to 2025 and by 210% compared to 2024, which we attribute both to the restructuring process as to Lumina's rating rising to A3 in the latest quadrennial Qualis-CAPES classification (2021–2024). The rise in the desk reject rate reflects a strategic editorial decision: to focus the peer-review process exclusively on manuscripts with strict alignment to the scope and potential for impact, protecting the pool of volunteer reviewers from evaluation overload.

In this first year of continuous flow, as in previous years with issues, we maintained our annual total of 36 published works. These consisted of 34 articles and two book reviews, authored by researchers from Brazil and abroad. The final set of publications makes up the International Dossier "Film Exhibition Practices and Audiences in Non Metropolitan Contexts: Latin America and the Global South - Presentation", coordinated by professors Talitha Ferraz (Universidade Federal Fluminense), Filipe Gama (Universidade Estadual do Sudoeste da Bahia), and Clara Kriger (Universidad de Buenos Aires) under the technical coordination of Lumina's Editor-in-Chief.

The dossier[6] section gathers seven works by 14 authors proposing a methodological renewal in film historiography, breaking away from the hegemonic and linear perspective that historically ignored local realities. The works investigate cinema outside major urban centers, encompassing exhibition, circulation, and cultural consumption practices in peripheral regions of Global South countries. Through case studies and interviews, the collection demonstrates how villages, small towns, and remote territories possess their own dynamics of audience formation and audiovisual dissemination. The dossier seeks to stimulate more decentralized and inclusive investigations, broadening the understanding of the seventh art beyond

[4] We thank Good Deal Language Consultancy Company (Juiz de Fora, MG) for translating the texts of the articles in this dossier into English, under a contract funded by the FAPEMIG/FADEPE/Lumina.

industrial metropolises.

In the General Articles section (Artigos livres), we published 27 articles throughout the year that treat Communication as a field of theoretical and methodological crossroads. This ontological and epistemological richness shows that a single volume of a journal can accommodate everything from empirical research on social media algorithms to analyses of peripheral music videos or theoretical reflections on the political economy of journalism. In the Reviews section (Resenhas), we featured two works addressing disinformation and social media platforms as spaces captured and appropriated by the far right in contemporary times.

We express our thanks to the authors, the valuable contribution of the guest editors, the time and expertise of ad hoc reviewers from different institutions in Brazil, Portugal, Argentina, Ecuador, and Mexico. We also thank our associate editors, Gustavo Teixeira de Faria Pereira (Federal University of Lavras) and Wedencley Alves Santana (UFJF), as well as our managing editor, João Paulo Malerba (UFJF), who facilitated our coordination with FAPEMIG/FADEPE regarding the grant agreements that are now concluding. Furthermore, we offer a special thanks to our team of editorial assistants from the UFJF Graduate Program in Communication (PPGCOM) for their dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm in the day-to-day production of Lumina.

We are pleased to announce that the editorial machinery for Volume 21/2027 is already in full swing. We continue to uphold the principles of Open Science and international best practices in academic publishing, with all accepted articles to be published in a bilingual format.

Our warmest wishes for a happy 2027 with a new cycle of changes and achievements!