

**IEEE RITA (Revista Iberoamericana electrónica de Tecnologías del Aprendizaje)
(Latin-American Learning Technologies Electronic Journal)**

ON-GOING REPORT

Main objectives and declarations:

(1) What is the objective of the proposed publication?

The objective of the magazine is to serve as means of scientific interchange of the different experiences and the research that are being carried out by Spanish and Portuguese speaking investigators in the field of Learning Technologies (LT). These include not only the experiences of the type of IEEE-ToE, but also contributions describing the design and development of new systems intended to address the educational necessities in engineering.

(2) Who is the intended audience of the proposed publication?

The Spanish and Portuguese worldwide speaking community (mainly, but not only, Latin America, Portugal and Spain, and the Spanish and Portuguese North American speakers).

(3) What evidence do you have that the proposed publication will be a financial success?

The main evidence is its low cost. The use of electronic media as the means of diffusion will maintain a low cost structure. Additionally, given the significant number of papers published in IEEE-ToE from Spanish speaking researchers, we expect this publication to be also scientifically relevant.

(4) What is your suggested editorial structure for the proposed publication?

Initially: President (Editor in chief), Vice-President, Secretary and technical members (editorial board).

(5) Could the current IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON EDUCATION (ToE) be restructured to include the objective that you have for the proposed publication? If so, how should the Transactions be restructured? If not, why?

The IEEE ToE does not need to change its current structure. However, a possible change that could be beneficial to both journals could be to include a yearly selection of the best papers of RITA (published in English) in a special issue of IEEE-ToE. The details of the selection and review process would need to be discussed.

We highlight this fact because it would serve as a way to relate both journals of the same Society. This idea can be generalized to other journals that arise, of such form that the special number in CD-ROM could be used as place of encounter of best

articles of those magazines. In summary, the special number in CD-ROM of the IEEE-ToE can act the following as:

1. To serve as point of contact between the different journals and magazines that can arise in the IEEE Education Society, as in the case of RITA, exposing the best appeared articles in English throughout the year. Thus the rest of members of the IEEE can be up to date of which is being published in those other magazines.
2. To serve as a promotion mechanism for other journals and magazines, allowing investigators that publish in RITA the possibility that their work (if it is selected among the best) is also published in IEEE-ToE.

(6) How will publication content be solicited?

There will be a Web devoted to the Electronic Journal that would disseminate the call for articles, as well as will be the repository of the published one. Through mail lists, IEEE Edsoc webs and IEEE Edsoc chapters of Latin America, Portugal and Spain, and if possible, through dissemination in the ToE and The Interface.

(7) If accepted, what changes in Transactions' objectives will be required to ensure that the new publication does not conflict with the new publication?

None. Since both journals (IEEE ToE and IEEE RITA) are written in different languages the conflict between the two is minimal.

ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS:

IEEE Latin American Transactions published by the Region 9 would be a good reference in the development of this new publication.

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/9/etrans/eng/>

TOPICS: They would be such that those of the IEEE-ToE, but also extending to the systems of e-Learning (Web-based Education, Collaborative Learning, Scientific Web-based Laboratories and Virtual Labs, Authoring Systems for Web-based Education, Reusable Learning Objects for Educational Purposes, etc.)

DISTRIBUTION: It would be an electronic publishing, stored in a Web site. In one first stage it would be of free access and distribution but this consideration could be evaluated after the first working period (probably after two operational years). It would be good that the IEEE provided the hosting of the Web site, to have an IEEE reference as well as to give stability to the publication throughout the time.

LANGUAGES: Spanish and Portuguese. Abstracts in English.

STRUCTURE OF RITA: It will be published quarterly (FEB, MAY, AUG and NOV) in a basis of 1 volume by year, 4 numbers by volume. Each number will have around 5 papers (this is a tentative number of papers: it will depend of the quality of papers to increase or decrease this number). Each paper will have from 6 to 8 pages, in the standard IEEE publication format

START-UP AND LAUNCH. We would have to begin to work as soon as possible. We only need the permission of the IEEE to start up it and the ISSN (provided by IEEE). Later, IEEE should provide web hosting, paper processing access (IEEE manuscript), publicity by its publications and a selection of the best papers into its yearly CD-ROM edition. The first number of RITA tentatively could be MAY 2006. Therefore, we will create a minimum core to launch the first issue. Later, we will evolve according to the number of papers received.

BUDGET: We think the costs are minimal and they can be integrated into general function of IEEE ToE (web hosting that could be too included in the IEEE Region 8 Web), IEEE manuscript, ISSN and CD-ROM). The organizational cost (Editorial Board and structure) and reviews will have no cost charges.

FUTURE AND IEEE EDUCATION SOCIETY BENEFITS: This could be desirable that in a near future the new Journal could be accessible through IEEE Xplore and in a more future issue could try to have indexed the new electronic Journal, exploring in this way new alternatives to traditional publications that could help the Society to improve the adaptation to change and use of the new electronic media in the publications.