

Vanderlei Perez Canhos

Graduated in Food Science and Engineering at *Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP)* in 1971 and received a PhD degree in microbiology at Oregon State University, USA in 1980. For the last 25 years Dr. Canhos has been involved with initiatives focused on the development of information systems for biological collections and on on-line dissemination of biodiversity data.

President Director of CRIA, the Brazilian Reference Center on Environmental Information (www.cria.org.br), and member of the Species 2000 Board of Directors, the ETI-Expert Taxonomy Information Board of Directors (University of Amsterdam).

Current activities are focused on the use of biodiversity informatics in the development of the Brazilian biodiversity information infrastructure. Team leader of the *speciesLink* project an information network that integrates around 4 million records of 200 biological collections and principal investigator of the SICol Project, an information system of microbial collections of biotechnological interest.