

The Movement for Defence of the Quality of Training of Nursing Professionals and the work of ABEn in education area

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The Brazilian Nursing Association (ABEn), among many struggles historically developed in support of nursing education in Brazil, embraces one more cause, the Movement for Defence of the Quality of Training of Nursing Professionals.

In 2009, during the 61th CBEN (Brazilian Nursing Congress), it was endorsed by the Chart of Fortaleza, the ABEn-Cofen Political Agenda of Understanding. It stands out among the seventeen priorities of this Agenda, to **“build a movement to defend the quality of training of nursing professionals”**. In June 2010, it was composed a Working Group with representatives from ABEn and Cofen to develop guidelines on the movement, which was released that same year, on the occasion of the 12th SENADEn (National Seminary on Nursing Education Guidelines) in the city of São Paulo, SP. The Group suggested thirteen guidelines, one of which underscores the need to “reclaim the MEC (Ministry of Education and Culture) agility in the amendment of Decree No. 5773 of 2006, so that **requests for creation of undergraduate courses in Nursing to be forwarded for consideration by the National Council of Health-CNS**, as already happens with the courses of Medicine, Dentistry and Psychology.

For the ABEn, the inclusion of nursing in all the health professions whose graduate programs are the object of analysis and consideration of the CNS, is a claim that dates back to 2006. Successive Directors of Education, representing the entity in the Intersectoral Commission on Human Resources (CIRH-CNS), were the spokesmen of that demand. In course of time, ABEn guided discussions about the content of this Decree, highlighting their important contribution in regulating the opening of new courses, with the MEC, as well as the audience of professional organizations of Nursing with the former Vice-President of the Republic, José Alencar, where ABEn was represented by the National President 2007-2010, Maria Goretti David Lopes. In all spaces where they could register such a claim, ABEn did, such as the National Forum of Education in Health Professions (FNEPAS), always striving for the training of qualified healthcare professionals. Anyway, mobilized leaders, attended hearings and meetings promoted, and managed to alert the state to the situation of nursing in the country. **The inclusion of nursing in a new version of the Decree began to emerge as a possibility** and the Movement for Defence of the Quality of Training for Professional Nursing strengthened the discussion.

The new National Board of ABEn - Management 2010-2013, as the entity has been doing since its creation in 1926 - 85 years hence!- take this agenda, both in its program of activities, as in his wider platform of struggle for Brazilian Nursing. In 2011 the first meeting of the National Council of ABEn (CONABEn), Brasília, DF, the new Board expressed its willingness to continue advocating the formation of qualified professionals to meet users of the Single Health System and to dignify the profession of nursing. With the slogan **“The struggle continues!”** the National Board reaffirms the commitment in all areas in which they do this, always raise that flag. At the first meeting held between members of the 2010-2013 Management and President of COFEN, in Brasília, DF, it was highlighted that the change in/of the Decree should not take more time, because the expansion of courses is advancing in all regions of the country! ABEn and COFEN renegotiated the guidelines of the Movement, in addition to the revision of the Presidential Decree, including the National Federation of Nurses on the move, emphasizing the need for media campaign by establishing a diagnosis of Nursing education in the country linked to the health and social needs and of the labor market, among other actions.

As we saw, quickly and briefly, ABEn is leading a fight for the training of nursing! This is being done seeking partners, building alliances, making their voices heard; marking space and presence on numerous boards and committees; locking discussions on the theme in their events, as SENADEn, a privileged space to discuss and submit proposals for the development of Nursing education.