The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology is going to the Brazilian Central Plain, the headquarters of the power, the national decisions and the most important legal processes that affect either directly or indirectly the life of all Brazilians. The XX Brazilian Congress of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, from October 31st to November 3rd, is going to be held for the first time in Brasília, in the heart of Brazil, a relatively equidistant point from North to South, facilitating the participation of a greater number of colleagues. The expectation is always big, and even more since it is going to be the first event of the new management, lead by Dra. Irene Queiroz Marchesan, with a set of administrators that represents very much the several regions and scientific and professional leadership in Brazil. The main theme: Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology – Science and Profession, is of everybody’s interest and it will surely be of great inspiration to undergraduate and graduate students that compose almost 70% of the congress participants.

I ask you, reader of the SBFa journals and assiduous participant of the SBFa congresses, to encourage friends and colleagues to take part in one of the most important scientific meetings in the area of human communication disorders in our country. Going to congresses has at least three benefits: immediate intensive update, network broadening, and reasoning about the position that each one of us takes in relation to other colleagues. The update is immediate because the majority of the works presented take, in average, two years to be published, many of them in our journals. The network that is built up during these events is essential in moments of growth, and even more important in periods of crisis, which is recognized by the market specialists as a strategy of group strengthening and cohesion. The reasoning about the relative position that each one takes before the profession as a whole is a very healthy process, since we usually restrict ourselves to the relationship with colleagues of our own institutions and specialty area and, therefore, we can create an illusory scenery.

We go to congresses to exchange information, knowledge and above all, to reflect about how we are and in what way our activity is conscientious and backed up by the best available scientific evidences.

Although there are so many available knowledge online and so many new learning approaches, congresses have not lost their importance nor there are signs that these activities will become weak. It is in the congresses that new leaderships are identified and the paths of the profession are understood. Helping the new generation is our responsibility and our duty. Congresses have changed; they are more dynamic, agile and intense. If you have been absent from them for a few years, you will surely be impressed. In general, individuals with higher titles and updated demonstrate greater satisfaction in their professional activities, and the place to share personal and group experiences is exactly at the congress.

Take full advantage of the reading of this exceptional issue of the Revista da SBFa, and register to the event that promises to be a turning point of the scientific and professional exhibition of Brazilian Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

See you in Brasília!

Mara Behlau
Executive editor of the RSBF