

Graduate degree program in nursing commemorates 30 years!

In 1973, the University of São Paulo Nursing School initiated their master's program in nursing, with five areas of concentration: administration of nursing services, obstetric and neonatal nursing, pediatric nursing, nursing fundamentals and psychiatric nursing. The pioneering professors dared to do what would guarantee a place for nursing in the world of modern universities!

Since then the program has expanded and consolidated its place in Brazil. It is the second oldest and the oldest uninterrupted one. A decade later, the "Interunit" Doctoral Program was established in partnership with the University of São Paulo at Ribeirão Preto Nursing School. After 16 years the doctoral level was created for the initial program. The areas of concentration remained essentially the same until the Nursing in Collective Health area was created in 1991 and some years later, in 1995, when the Nursing of Institutionalized Adults area was established. Although they are called areas of concentration, each one of them presents a broad range of subject matter and in the first decades of the program there were mandatory subjects in common.

The graduate program at the nursing school has undergone successive changes due to the ever-increasing evaluations and qualifications of the faculty. Today the school has three programs - Graduate Program in Nursing (PPGE), "Interunit" Doctoral Program and the Graduate Program in Nursing in Adult Health (PROESA)- two of them with two levels and one at the doctoral level. These programs are streamlined by a reduction in credits to make them more flexible, faster and research oriented. A national scope was always a consideration, and we have received students from all over the country. This scope has taken on an institutional form through the courses administered outside the school, at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, and the consortium of the State University of Londrina and the State University of Maringá.

The concern with faculty qualifications in the development of nursing science has driven the recruitment of foreign students, many of which are from other Latin American countries and other Portuguese speaking countries. Worldwide, graduates of this program have created centers of study and graduate programs in nursing and public health.

As of October 2003, 930 students from both levels, 542 master's level in 388 doctoral level, have concluded the graduate programs. The contribution of the University of São Paulo Nursing School graduate program to national and international qualifications is evident.

Recently, when scheduling began for the commemoration of 30 years of graduate programs, tribute was paid to two pioneers. Dr. Evalda Cançado Arantes, for her important contribution to the development of nursing science and to graduate work in nursing, and to Wanda de Aguiar Horta, in memoriam, who gave her name to the school library that she helped create.

Well deserved tributes! Congratulations to the pioneers and all those who have contributed and continue to contribute to the success of our graduate programs!

*This first issue of 2004 presents an article that reflects upon the humanization of health care - a very current topic! It highlights the need for self-analysis of professionals and awareness of their resistance, an important aspect in bringing professionals and patients closer together. In the same vein, in an effort to promote ethics in the essence of care, another article addresses feelings, the historical aspects and the distinct explanatory structures of care ethics, in order to contribute to the debate on care as an internal asset and the *raison d'être* of nursing. More specifically, another text presents ethics in solidarity in the education-care process in expectant and birthing mothers. This reinforces the importance of developing up-to-date methodologies which involve the woman as a participant in the process and facilitate the respect of her dignity.*

Still in the area of women's health, another two articles address the practice of nurses in the care of women in the public health system, and one presents teaching strategies for the demedicalization of care in the teaching of nursing in women's health adopted in a university in Rio de Janeiro.

Concerned about the care of children, another group of colleagues have revealed the social representations of children with cancer to gain a better understanding of the topic and to better direct nursing care with visits to reduce the traumas that this process unleashes in children.

An evolution in understanding and contemporary care practice for contagious diseases is found in another article that reviews the measures of biosecurity in the professional activities of health workers. Another review emerges in an article that addresses the best care interventions for patients with medullar lesions.

The subject of homecare is present in an article which discusses the adaptation of the Therapeutic Intervention Scoring System Intermediate to the Portuguese language, by means of an instrument with 104 items, to help nurses make decisions based on the evaluation of these patients.

Another study compares 100 hypertensive patients treated in an emergency room to 100 patients treated in an outpatient clinic, revealing significant differences between the two groups regarding income, location where blood pressure is measured and the taking of medication.

Teaching emerges in an article characterizing the learning situation of the nursing students on psychotropic drugs, showing the influence of the media and the use of common sense in epidemiology, motivation, repetition of myths and prejudice against users.

For our last article in the first issue of 2004, we have transcribed a text presented at the 1st Ibero-american Conference on Nursing Journals, in Granada, Spain, in November of 2003, with a summary analysis of 36 years of REEUSP.

Dear reader, see how we are growing and ready to publish your work and your opinions.

Happy New Year!

Enjoy!