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RESEARCH | PESQUISA



Academic Center of the School of Nursing of Ribeirão Preto: 1953-1954

Centro Acadêmico da Escola de Enfermagem de Ribeirão Preto: 1953-1954 Centro Académico de la Escuela de Enfermería de Ribeirão Preto: 1953-1954

ABSTRACT

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Objective: to analyze the beginning of the student movement, through the creation of the Academic Center of the School of Nursing of Ribeirão Preto, a representative body of the student segment, and the actions developed during the first board. Method: study from a historical perspective, with a Micro-History approach and documental analysis to treat the sources, with a temporal delimitation from 1953 to 1954. **Results:** documentary sources were found in paper support and interviews carried out with graduates of the course. The creation was founded on December 17, 1953. During the period investigated, the entity promoted leisure and sports activities, actions to recruit and improve the school's visibility, communicated with other student organizations, financial management, and exposed concern for the political, student, and social issues. Final considerations and implications for practice: triangulation of sources and literature corroborate several issues documented in the minutes of the first administration and contribute to revealing part of the history of the student movement in the 1950s and of Ribeirão Preto School of Nursing itself.

Keywords: Nursing; Schools, Nursing; Students, Nursing; History of Nursing; Politics.

Resumo

Objetivo: analisar o início do movimento estudantil da Escola de Enfermagem de Ribeirão Preto, mediante a criação do Centro Acadêmico da Escola de Enfermagem de Ribeirão Preto, órgão representativo do segmento estudantil, e as ações desenvolvidas durante a primeira gestão. **Método:** estudo de perspectiva histórica, com abordagem na micro-história e análise documental para tratamento das fontes, e delimitação temporal de 1953 a 1954. **Resultados:** constatou-se a criação em 17 de dezembro de 1953. No período investigado, a entidade promoveu atividades de lazer e esportivas, ações para recrutamento e melhor visibilidade da escola, comunicação com outros centros acadêmicos, gestão de finanças, e demonstrou preocupação com questões políticas, estudantis e sociais. **Considerações finais e implicações para a prática:** a triangulação de fontes e literatura de aderência corroboram vários assuntos documentados nas atas da primeira gestão, e revelam parte da história do movimento estudantil de enfermagem, na década de 1950, e da própria Escola de Enfermagem de Ribeirão Preto.

Palavras-chave: Enfermagem; Escolas de Enfermagem; Estudantes de Enfermagem; História da Enfermagem; Política.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: analizar el inicio del movimiento estudiantil en la EERP-USP, a través de la creación del CAEERP, órgano representativo del segmento estudiantil, y las acciones desarrolladas durante la primera dirección. Método: estudio de perspectiva histórica, con enfoque de Micro-Historia y análisis documental para el tratamiento de las fuentes, con delimitación temporal de 1953 a 1954. Resultados: se encontraron fuentes documentales en soporte papel y entrevistas realizadas a egresados del curso. La creación del se constató el 17 de diciembre de 1953. Durante el período investigado, la entidad promovió actividades lúdicas y deportivas, acciones de captación y visibilidad de la escuela, comunicación con otros centros de estudiantes, gestión financiera y mostró preocupación por los intereses políticos, estudiantiles y cuestiones sociales. Consideraciones finales e implicaciones para la práctica: triangulación de fuentes y literatura corroboran varias cuestiones documentadas en las actas de la primera gestión y contribuyen a revelar parte de la historia del movimiento estudiantil de enfermería en la década de 1950 y de la propia Escuela de Enfermería de Ribeirão Preto.

Palabras clave: Enfermería; Facultades de Enfermería; Estudiantes de Enfermería; Historia de la Enfermería; Política.

INTRODUCTION

The study addresses the beginning of the student movement and its representation in the School of Nursing of Ribeirão Preto, at the University of São Paulo (EERP-USP), in the years 1953 and 1954, starting with the nursing students.

In 1931, the provisional government of Getúlio Vargas, through Decree 19.851, of April 11, 1931, instituted the Statute of the Brazilian Universities. The document stressed the obligation of student associations in each university or higher education institution, which should defend student interests, create and enable the development of a school classroom spirit, and make the relationship among students pleasant and instructive. These associations would have to have their boards and also elect a *"Directório"* [Academic Administration], with nine members imbued with the institutional authority to represent the students. To centralize the work, the decree proposed the creation of a Students 'Central Union, composed of two representatives from each institutional directory, representing the class on a national level.^{1,2}

There is a special meaning to being a university student in this context. In general, only children of the elite of Brazilian society participated in this project of a nation idealized by the Vargas government. It was a different university context from today's, in which children from the middle class coexist with university students from the economically less favored classes.

Six years after the Statute of Brazilian Universities, on the eve of the Estado Novo, the União Nacional dos Estudantes [National Students Union] was created on August 11, 1937. As the national representative entity of Brazilian students, it became responsible for positioning itself as the national student representative body on political issues of the time and organizing annual congresses to bring together students from all over Brazil.³

Thus, after national centralization, a world war, and political re-democratization - more precisely, on December 26, 1951 the Ribeirão Preto Nursing School was created, attached to the Ribeirão Preto Medical School of the University of São Paulo (FMRP -USP), through art. 13, of State Law 1.467, to offer courses in Nursing and Nursing Assistant, following the model of the USP's School of Nursing (EE-USP).⁴ Classes started on August 10, 1953.⁵

In this context, the present study understands the student movement - started in the EERP-USP, in the 1950s - as organized activities by representatives of the student group to defend the rights and interests of the student body.

In an article on EERP-USP history, there is a brief mention of the creation of the Academic Center of the School of Nursing of Ribeirão Preto (CAEERP), of the University of São Paulo (EERP-USP), which happened in 1955, and that, in 1965, was renamed Marina de Andrade Rezende Academic Center (CAMAR). The article also highlights the contributions of CAEERP, dynamizing student activities and expanding the institutional disclosure, to encourage the recruitment of young people.⁶ The Academic Center is an entity that represents the students of a particular course within a university.⁷ The present study aims to analyze the beginning of the student movement at EERP-USP, through the creation of CAEERP - the representative organization of the student segment - and the actions developed during the first administration.

METHOD

Research from the historical perspective, with a microhistory approach and document analysis for processing sources. Microhistory reduces the scale of observation, so that important aspects may be perceived, which otherwise would not be evident. Such an approach allows for the understanding of specificities.⁸ The problem of microhistory is to access the past using signs and clues, presenting its starting point in the particularity, in the micro space, in search of meaning within the context in which it is inserted.⁹

The documental analysis has as its object the historical source. Besides promoting the analysis of the sources, it allows the comparison between different types of speech. The source is any product of a human activity that is subject to historical analysis and that makes it possible to know the historical and social period of actions, in order to recreate the interpretation of facts or to verify the verisimilitude of these and their antecedents.¹⁰ For the analysis, the sources were triangulated, and the different documents of the study were compared, aiming to achieve better proximity, understanding, and clarification of the theme studied.¹¹

The temporal delimitation refers to the period from 1953 to 1954. The initial timeframe is 1953 when the EERP-USP classes started, and the final timeframe is 1954, the period in which the organization and establishment of the first management of CAEERP occurred, according to the literature. The selected collection was the CAMAR archive, whose sources, during the research, were donated to the Memory Center of EERP-USP.

The sources for the present research were: administrative documents; minutes of meetings; letters; correspondence; USP records related to CAEERP; theses; books; articles about the history of EERP-USP; and interviews conducted during the project "Origins of the Ribeirão Preto School of Nursing under the perspective of Glete de Alcântara"["Origens da Escola de Enfermagem de Ribeirão Preto sob a Ótica de Glete de Alcântara"].

The present study is a cutout of the project entitled "Student Movement at the School of Nursing of Ribeirão Preto: 1953-2013"["Movimento estudantil na Escola de Enfermagem de Ribeirão Preto: 1953-2013"], which received approval from the Research Ethics Committee of EERP-USP, in 2015, under protocol CAAE No. 51001815.0.0000.5393, and included the identification of the participants, if they authorized it, due to the nature of the study. All interviewees agreed to be identified.

RESULTS

The survey of information about CAEERP from the documentary *corpus* allowed us to identify the initial organization of CAEERP from different perspectives (Table 1 and Table 2).

By analyzing the minute's book and the attendance book - in which the meetings held by CAEERP and the public present were

Table 1. Documentary corpus of analysis. Ribeirão Preto, 2022.

Source Type/Date	Amount	Content
<i>Category 1:</i> Cards 1953 and 1954	4	 2 greeting cards sent by the Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro" from EE-USP and by the Academic Center "Dr. Carneiro Leão", from the School of Pharmacy and Dentistry of Ribeirão Preto - USP (FFORP). 2 cards were addressed to CAEERP, by a probable former student of the course, thanking CAEERP, and mentioning how much she misses her fellow students.
Category 2 Announcements 1954	1	Announcement of the new management of CAEERP by the Academic Center "Rocha Lima", FMRP- USP.
<i>Category 3:</i> Invitation. <i>1954</i>	3	1 invitation from the Academic Criminology Center of the São Paulo State Police Academy, to the XV Police Studies Week in São Paulo, from November 16th to 19th; 01 invitation to the graduation ceremony of the Brazilian Cruz Vermelha [Red Cross] nurses, and 01 graduation invitation from the Moura Lacerda institution.
Category 4: Registry Books	2	1 Minute Book, consisting of 14 minutes, and 1 attendance book.
Category 5: Interviews	5	Interviews were conducted with 4 former students from the first class, and 1 teacher.

Table 2. Records about CAEERP, in interviews with former students from the first class and former teachers. Ribeirão Preto, 2022.

Date and Source	Documentary Excerpt
Interview with <i>Carmen</i> <i>Silvia Monteiro de Barros</i> <i>Martinelli,</i> former student, first class <i>EERP-USP</i> . ¹²	[]I was secretary and president of the School Academic Center. To bring in students, I don't remember much [], we would advertise, one of the jobs of this group was to advertise the school. So we would go and talk about it because people were not used to it, but after high school what were they going to do, what were they going to do? To do medicine, which was available there, dentistry, which was also available in Ribeirão Preto. Therefore, we went there to spread the word, to have another source, another school to go to, and so on. Trying to raise the level of the School to a level similar to that of medicine, and dentistry, so we did a dissemination job []. []the white cap, which was a starched front part, but it didn't last long. We used and introduced the cap because we were the first class [] []the dances we used to give in the basement {at Visconde de Inhaúma Street}, were very good. It was a very pleasant environment from the beginning because it was the first class, a relatively small class. So there was a lot of unity among all the students, teachers, and employees, so one became very attached to the other. [].
Interview with Geraldina Passeri, former student, of the first EERP-USP class. ¹³	The former student affirmed that she would have been the first president.
Interview with <i>Vilma</i> <i>Aquino,</i> former student, of the first class. ¹⁴	[]The prank for freshmen was simple, it was only the use of the cap in the street, that little yellow cap. And this was my prank, that "CLASS A" passed on us, that was from "CLASS B". Later I didn't see the others [] [] The freshman cap was yellow. It was the same model, but the freshman cap was yellow and the graduate cap was white like the uniform collar []. []The Academic Center had many parties, they liked to take pictures they liked to party. They even serenaded us sometimes; the prom was organized by the Academic Center []
Interview Luzia Apparecida Urbano, former student, of the first class EERP-USP. ¹⁵	[]there were thirty vacancies for the School of Nursing, but in the first selection, the vacancies were not filled. []. [] the snacks, each one brought a dish, it was this very familiar kind of party, you know, each one brought something to help the Academic Center [].
Interview Helena Maria Panizza Nador. ¹⁶	[]When I was invited to come to Ribeirão Preto to teach Psychology, I started the Psychoanalysis training with Dr. Virgínia Bicudo, because, besides the classes, I had to develop a counseling work with the students [] [] We did an orientation work. This was one of the factors that Glete insisted on, that the nurses should have self-awareness, and self-knowledge, to be able to work with human beings [].

recorded - it was found that the first management organized 14 meetings, being 5 ordinary meetings in 1954 (03/09,¹⁷ 04/23,¹⁸ 05/19,¹⁹ 08/03²⁰ and 10/05²¹) and 9 extraordinary meetings in the same year (04/07,²² 04/21,²³ 08/06,²⁴ 09/17,²⁵09/20,²⁶ 09/26,²⁷ 10/11,²⁸ 10/13²⁹ and 10/23³⁰). However, not all meetings were recorded in the minute's book, and it was only possible to count them based on the attendance record in the attendance book. Still in 1954, regarding the second CAEERP administration, two more ordinary meetings were held, on 11/5³¹ and 12/2,³² respectively. The first one occurred for the transfer of functions between the first and the second management.³¹

It was identified (Figure 1) the creation on December 17, 1953, according to the CAEERP minutes, but its first meeting took place on March 9, 1954,¹⁷ a fact that contradicts the current literature on the creation of CAEERP, which mentions the year 1955.⁶ Two nurses from the first class affirmed that their class were responsible for the creation of CAEERP.

The first administrative structure of CAEERP (Figure 2) was composed of President (Libânea Meirelles), Vice-President (Lydia Ferreira), 1st Secretary (Carmem Silvia Monteiro de Barros Martinelli), 2nd Secretary (Odette Aparecida de Carvalho Bocchi), 1st Treasurer (Geraldina Passeri) and 2nd Treasurer (Zaíra Benedini). As for the beginning, it is dated March 9, 1954,¹⁷ and there is no record of how the selection of the first management of the Academic Center took place.

Termo de Flbertura

Servirá este livro que contem 100 folhas numeradors tipogràficamente de 1 a 100 de Bivro de Otas da Diretoria do Centro Otadêmico da Escola de Enfermagem de Ribeirão Frêto, anexo à Faculda. de de Fredicina de Ribeirão Frêto, da Universidade de São Paulo.

Ribeirão Prêto, 17 de Sezembro de 1.953 ._

Libaria Merie lles

Figure 1. Opening term of the first CAEERP management book. Ribeirão Preto, 2022.

Source: Memory Center of EERP-USP. Digitization by the authors. Translation: This book, which contains 100 pages numbered from 1 to 100, is a book of minutes of the board of directors of the Academic Center of the School of Nursing of Ribeirão Preto, attached to the Ribeirão Preto Medical School of the University of Sao Paulo. Ribeirão Preto, December 17th, 1953. Libânea Meireles, President. The former student Geraldina Passeri claimed to have been the first president of the representative body.¹³ However, according to CAEERP's documentation, Mrs. Geraldina Passeri was the 1st Treasurer in the first administration, under the presidency of Libânea Meirelles, also from the first class.

It was also identified the formation of the 2nd administration, whose activities started in the same year, on November 5, 1954, the date on which information was passed on to the students who would occupy the new positions, held, for the most part, by the same people from the 1st administration.³¹

No regularity in the meetings was identified, suggesting probable respect for the needs and possibilities of the CAEERP members. Some meetings were even held on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, with times between 9 am and 8:30 pm. The attendance book contains six registers of signatures. In the extraordinary meetings, an average of 12 students were present.

Regarding the agendas discussed in CAEERP meetings, it was possible to identify several topics, and it is common to start them all with the reading of the previous minutes for approval by the whole group. The agendas of the first administration can be grouped into 1 - Rituals: Organization of the freshmen pranks, 2 - Integration: Freshmen's Ball, the election of the "Queen of the University Games", organization of cocktail parties for celebrations, and election of the new board of directors, 3- Professional marketing: interviews for Radio Club (local radio) and A Cidade Newspaper (municipal newspaper), 4 - Politics: Election of class representative, sending CAEERP representative to the VI Congresso Estadual de Estudantes [VI State Students Congress], and following up on strike in São Paulo, 5 - Associative: the creation of the Student's Notebook, 6 - Pedagogical: Portuguese course and preparatory course for University entrance exams. In the second administration, it was also observed, at the end of 1954, the organization of a charity action for the children's Christmas at Santa Casa de Ribeirão Preto hospital.

The CAEERP meetings took place at the EERP-USP headquarters, in this period located at Visconde de Inhaúma Street, 757, Ribeirão Preto-SP. It was not possible to identify if there was a specific room assigned to CAEERP for these meetings. The minute's book also contained financial records of monthly cash inflows and outflows. It was observed that at the beginning of the first administration had a balance of Cr\$ 232.00, in December 1953, and, at the transition of the administration, on November 5, 1954, the available amount was Cr\$ 15.323,00.³¹ It is also noteworthy that the introduction of the Gold Book, which could not be found in the archive, but there is in the minutes the establishment of a monthly fee to be paid to CAEERP by its associates, in the amount of Cr\$ 10,00.¹⁷

CAEERP mentions a Social and Sports Department, besides the request for collaboration from the Academic Center "Carneiro Leão", to organize the contest of the "Queen of the University Games", presenting a candidate, who would contribute to the games' maintenance and support to philanthropic institutions. The CAEERP decided that her participation would be tied to "a percentage of the votes cast in her favor". However, the following

Menegucci TS, Luchesi LB, Sousa TO, Amorim WM, Marcussi E, Silva GTR

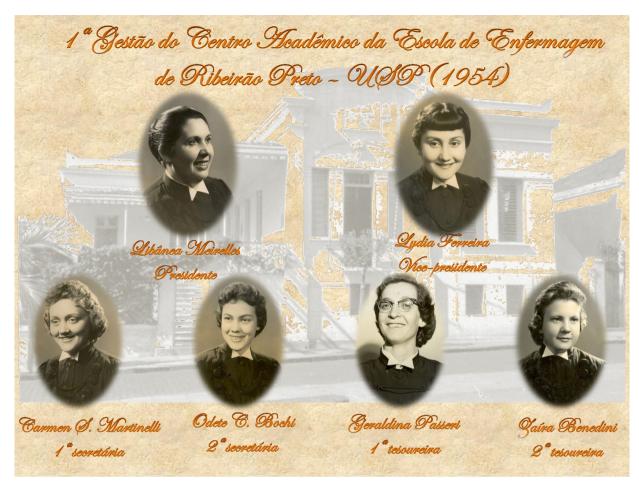


Figure 2. First administrative management of CAEERP, 1954. Ribeirão Preto, 2022. Source: Graduation album of the 1st class of EERP-USP. CEMEERP-USP archive and Geraldina Pásseri's personal archive. In the background is the EERP-USP headquarters in 1954. Photographer: Tony Miyasaka. Design, using Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2010, by the authors.

minutes present different outcomes: the EERP-USP candidate withdrew her candidature and the CAEERP thanked the 5th Recruiting District and the 3rd Hunters Battalion of Ribeirão Preto for their support in the campaign for the "Queen of the University Games".²²

We found evidence of CAEERP's collaboration for institutional recruitment, through a Preparatory Course for University entrance exams, organized by its first administration, lasting three months (August to November). The classes took place at EERP-USP, at night, two a day, each lasting 50 minutes, from Monday to Friday (except Thursdays). Students were charged a registration fee of Cr\$ 50.00 and a monthly fee of Cr\$ 200.00. There was also payment for classes and the teachers' share of surplus profits, totaling Cr\$ 2,000.00.²⁰

The course resulted in the graduation of five female students, a fact that left the members of CAEERP satisfied and motivated to plan the 2nd edition of the Preparatory Course, planned for the beginning of 1955. At the time, a film was considered to be made to be shown in local movie theaters.³²

An important highlight among the subjects treated was the sending of a CAEERP representative to the VI Congresso

Estadual de Estudantes de São Paulo [VI State Student Congress of São Paulo], between April 24 and May 2, 1954. The sending of a representative to monitor the strike in São Paulo was also reported,²¹ which suggests the interest of the entity also in student issues and national politics.

The first administration came to an end, and the organization of the new plate and the election of the 2nd CAEERP administration took place, scheduled for October 23, 1954, with the formation of an electoral commission of members that did not belong to CAEERP. The situation was understood as a festivity, including a commemorative cocktail party organized by the members of the first management.³⁰

DISCUSSION

The organization and management of the EERP-USP, from 1953 to 1970 was in charge of Prof. Glete de Alcântara, appointed by Prof. Dr. Paulo César de Azevedo Antunes, director of the School of Hygiene and Public Health - USP, at the time, and invited by Prof. Dr. Zeferino Vaz, director of the FMRP-SP, leaving her teaching position at the EE-USP for such.³³

Analyzing the director's background may bring clues about CAEERP's creation. Prof. Glete de Alcântara, in this period, was a nurse who graduated from the University of Toronto School of Nursing, Canada (1944), as a Rockefeller Foundation scholar; with a degree in Social Sciences from the University of São Paulo (1951); and a Master of Arts from the Teacher's College - University of Columbia (1951).³⁴ At the beginning of classes, she was the national president of the Brazilian Association of Nursing (ABEn), the most significant political-cultural position in the field of Brazilian nursing.³⁵

The administration presented initiatives to collaborate in the welcoming and adjustment of students. The institution was the first to accept external students, that is, those who did not live in the EERP-USP. In addition, a psychologist was admitted to the school's faculty, to provide psychological support to the students.³⁶ This fact was confirmed by Mrs. Vilma Aquino,¹⁴ former student of the first class of the EERP-USP, who identified the psychologist mentioned as Prof. Helena Panizza Nador, later interviewed.¹⁶

A study about the Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro" identified in its documental corpus the presence of letters sent by CAEERP, like a card sent by Carmen Silvia Monteiro de Barros Martinelli in thanks to the Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro" (date: 06/18/1956). Another document found was a telegram sent by Prof. Glete de Alcântara congratulating the graduates of 1956, in addition to similar documents found in the present study,³⁷ demonstrating possible active communication between the two Academic Centers at USP.

The philosophy of the initial curriculum of the EERP-USP was the development of the student as a person, citizen, and nurse. It aimed to achieve the following main objectives: prepare nurses and nursing assistants, develop and improve teaching, conduct scientific research, and contribute to solving health problems of the community.⁶

Considering the creation of CAEERP and the beginning of activities at different times, a similar fact occurred with the Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro" of the USP School of Nursing (EE-USP), located in the city of São Paulo. According to the report of a former student, it had been created in March 1943, but the study identified the first minutes of meetings dated March 1, 1944.³⁷ Dinah Alves Coelho was the first president, for the 1944/45 mandate, of the Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro", but a study reported that, due to excessive academic activities of the students' graduation, or lack of understanding of the functions of an academic center, the Academic Center did not develop activities, which is the reason why a group of students requested new elections to choose more active leaders.³⁸

Despite the creation and beginning of CAEERP's activities at different times - unlike its school-sister (EE-USP) –, located in the city of São Paulo, CAEERP carried out several activities in its firs directorship.

Reports from students of the school's first class and some strategies developed by the group, allowed us to identify CAEERP's work in publicizing EERP-USP, by the quote from the interview of Carmen Silvia Monteiro de Barros Martinelli.¹² The need for investments in publicizing and recruiting EERP-USP may be associated with the low demand for the course in that period, a fact confirmed by Luzia A. Urbano.¹⁵

In this sense, we show evidence that the first administration of the Academic Center worked together with Prof. Glete de Alcântara for the development of the EERP-USP, participating actively in the recruitment of new students.

CAEERP-USP also carried out activities related to freshman pranks and festivities. The "pranks" is defined in the literature as an act of mockery, in which seniors (older students) of a certain school expose the freshmen (new students) to rituals of mockery and disdain.³⁹ However, regarding the prank of the freshman cap at CAEERP, it is necessary to analyze the meaning of wearing the cap in nursing schools in Brazil, since this rite is covered with the symbolic value of belonging. At EEAN, in the 1920s, for example, under the influence of American nurses, the freshmen would go through a four-month trial period and, if approved during this period, would participate in an event with great symbolic force - the "Capping Ceremony" - and would be given this symbol representing the effective integration of the student with the student body. As for the meaning attributed to this object, it was recognized as self-control and devotion to the causes of the profession. It is understood, therefore, that the use of the cap meant belonging to the group and brought obligations and privileges to those who owned it.40

The presence of a Social and Sports Department, at CAEERP, brought together socialization activities, but also sports activities, with emphasis on the University Games. However, it was reported, on the very first day of the games, a dispute with the following sports entities affiliated to the São Paulo University Sports Federation - FUPE: Alexandre de Gusmão (Santos); Dr. Adhemar de Barros (Bauru); 9 de Julho (Bauru); XXV de Outubro (Campinas); XVI de Abril (Campinas); VII de Maio (São Carlos); Sampaio Vidal (Araraquara); Luiz de Queiroz (Piracicaba); Rocha Lima (Ribeirão Preto); Santos Dumont (São José dos Campos); Dr. Vital Brasil (Sorocaba); and Dr. Carneiro Leão (Ribeirão Preto).⁴¹

This news allows us to conclude that CAEERP's participation was restricted to the scope of the organization and attendance, or together with the Rocha Lima Athletics, of the Medical School of Ribeirão Preto-USP, to which the EERP-USP was annexed, at the time. However, no evidence of a possible partnership was found, since CAEERP was not configured as a sports entity.

The indirect participation in a major sporting event was highlighted in more than one minute. The 2nd University Games of the countryside had statewide repercussions, held in the city of Ribeirão Preto-SP, in May 1954, under the "flag" of the Academic Athletic Association Carneiro Leão, of the School of Dentistry of Ribeirão Preto. There were musical bands, with an opening Congress, parade, and the modalities of athletics, swimming, chess, soccer, basketball, tennis, volleyball, ornamental jumps, closing, and dancing ball. The female modality was mentioned only in basketball and volleyball,⁴² showing little space for women in the tournament. On the other hand, the incentive to practice sports was also highlighted in other student entities in nursing, such as the Academic Center "Lais Netto dos Reys", which had in its management a Sports Commission - promoting sports competitions among students, - and the school participated in student sports events⁴³ and the Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro" of EE-USP there was also a Sports Department.³⁷

Considering the recruitment issues, the use of the media was very important in the city of Ribeirão Preto. Other strategies were the advertisements broadcasted in local newspapers and by the radio stations PRA7 and ZYR-79.²⁰ The group was invited to participate in a program on Rádio Clube Ribeirão Preto (PRA-7), lasting ten minutes, by radio interview, to talk about EERP-USP and subjects related to nursing. The interviews would be reviewed by Mr. Antônio C. Guimarães (English Professor of the students at EERP-USP), to be published in the newspaper A Cidade, from Ribeirão Preto.¹⁹

The radio became a means of mass communication, and in the city of Ribeirão Preto - as in other regions of the country - it was the most significant communication channel for cultural production and dissemination, to the point of influencing, even the habits of the municipality population.⁴⁴ Ribeirão-pretana community, at the time, the idea of the graduate nurse was practically nonexistent in the city during the period of the EERP-USP creation, there were several negative stereotypes that needed deep intervention. This work, associated with the efforts of the directors and faculty members, resulted in the 1963 thesis of Prof. Dr. Glete de Alcântara, which sought to analyze the impacts of ten years of recruitment campaigns on the population of Ribeirão Preto.⁵

Advertising actions carried out by CAEERP were also promoted by the Academic Centers "Laís Netto dos Reys" to spread a "good image" of nursing in the high schools.⁴³

CAEERP's participation in student events, which involved political discussions, demonstrated the entity's interest in going beyond the scope of socialization. Regarding the VI Congresso Estadual de Estudantes de São Paulo [VI State Student Congress of São Paulo], the Academic Center "Armando Salles de Oliveira", from USP - São Carlos, made a brief report about it, mentioning the following topics discussed: social assistance to students; representation in the collegiate congregations and technical-administrative councils of the institutions; the restaurants; education in general and the education reform; financial resources and use of national wealth; besides a critical remark about the great "lack of interest" on the part of the participants in the congress.⁴⁵ The Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro", from EE-USP, was involved in the organization of this Congress.³⁷

The financial aspect was also an important issue for the survival of the student representations, and different strategies were adopted. In the nursing field, the Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro", from EE-USP, counted, in its early days, with greater financial movement, including after the creation of a "BAR", which produced profits and parties. The most famous of them was the Festa de Santo Antônio [Santo Antônio celebration], which, in the 1946 and 1947 editions, reverted all its proceeds to the

printing of the Revista Annaes de Enfermagem, currently Revista Brasileira de Enfermagem[Brazilian nursing journal] (REBEn), at the request of Prof. Glete de Alcântara.³⁸ Financial resources were also found in a study on the Academic Directory of the Alfredo Pinto School of Nursing (EEAP), of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UNIRIO), created on May 28, 1955, reporting that its initial management depended on donations to maintain its activities. The entity was created without the knowledge of its director at the time, who only became aware of it in July of the same year.⁴⁶

It is worth remembering that, according to Decree No. 35,450 of 1954, the minimum wage was stipulated at Cr\$ 2,400.00; therefore, the CAEERP's final balance was equivalent to 6.4 minimum wages-equivalent, in January 2022, to BRL 7,756.80. However, it should be noted that this 1954 increase represented 100% of the 1952 minimum wage, which was Cr\$ 1,200. This increase aroused opposition, such as from the Army, which criticized the amount, which was almost equivalent to the maximum salary of a military officer. Even so, on May 1st, 1954, President Getúlio Vargas announced the new minimum wage amidst protests.^{47,48} Therefore, considering this scenario, the purchasing power of CAEERP's cash flow would probably be, in 1954, higher than the above forecast.

We found evidence of similar activities promoted by other Academic Centers, which suggests mutual influence among them, considering the evidence of correspondence, especially between CAEERP and the Academic Center "XXXI de Outubro" at EE-USP, where Prof. Glete de Alcântara had taught before arriving in Ribeirão Preto.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS AND PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS

Considering the analysis of the micro space without losing the interface with its context, the analyzed documentation certified the existence of a student representative entity at EERP-USP, called CAEERP, created on December 17, 1953.

The entity was engaged in the accomplishment of social agendas, fundraising for activities of social integration, recreational, pedagogical, student policies, and marketing. In addition, it sought to expand the recruitment of students, developed through advertising in high schools, radio, and university entrance exam preparatory courses, among others.

The present study contributes to revealing part of the history of the EERP-USP, from the beginning of the organization of the student movement in nursing, in the 1950s. It also highlighted the importance of many Academic Centers in the political-student organizational development, in addition to an important role in the recruitment of students, as evidenced in different bodies of student representation.

These strategies pointed out the recruitment difficulties faced, not only in the municipality, and, beyond that, it is a current theme and a concern of nursing worldwide until current days, as can be observed in the propaganda strategies of nursing class entities in Brazil and the *Nursing Now* campaign itself, launched in 2018.

As potentialities, the present research allows future studies to compare past and present, seeking convergences and divergences in the nursing student movement.

Regarding gaps, we highlight the literature on student movements in Brazilian nursing, which could expand comparative discussions. However, it is believed that the present study is the first stage for the deepening of student history in EERP-USP, and may inspire other researchers to tell the history of their institutions from the student point of view.

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