

# Editorial

## Nursing Graduation Program at EPE - Celebration of 30 years of the doctoral course\*

It is a time of celebration! This is an odd moment in the social life, when we celebrate and honor an important achievement. To honor the 30 years of the Doctoral Course of the Nursing Graduation Program is the purpose of this Editorial.

The Course was created in 1986 and named Doctorate in Maternal and Child Nursing, being later expanded and renamed as Doctorate in Nursing (1994). This Program has already awarded 224 PhD degrees, and 105 graduate students are currently with their doctoral training in progress.

We highlight the entrepreneurship, knowledge, competence, leadership, and commitment of the creators of this strict sense course for nurse researchers. This primary mission was gradually expanded, awarding the PhD degree to other professionals who have identified, in the research lines and in the knowledge produced in this course, their ways to develop new knowledge. We should also emphasize the responsibility of those who currently propose to continue the mission of the program, which is to be a “center of excellence for the training of researchers, leaders, and professionals highly trained to promote the advancement of nursing and health sciences, with emphasis on the multidimensional approach to people and groups in their different expressions”.

In this context, we ask what was the Doctoral Course contribution to the graduation training in nursing and health in the country?

The first PhD award occurred in October 1991. The search for information about PhD graduates on the *Lattes Platform* allowed to present various information, including to identify the curricula of 217 PhDs awarded by the program until June 2016 and show some of its contributions to the graduation in Nursing and Health.

Of the 217 PhD trained in the EPE, 194 (89%) are nurses and 23 (11%) are professionals from other areas of knowledge. Most of them were awarded their degrees with about 40 years of age, and the increase in the number of awards for under 30 years of age in the last ten years is a highlight. On the average, the PhD awards occurred in 3.9 years. Of the total number of these PhD, 57% were from São Paulo State, indicating that the program has significantly contributed to the training of researchers from other States of Brazil.

We analyzed the research projects developed with the participation of PhD trained in EPE. A total of 1,189 projects were identified since the first record (1988) until 2016. Of these, 367 (31%) projects were founded by agencies for research support (such as the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development, CNPq; Coordination for the Improvement of High Level Personnel, CAPES; and Research Support Foundations

of several States of Brazil), as well as educational and health institutions. Given the total numbers of projects and PhD graduates, each researcher was estimated to participate in five different projects on the average.

Regarding intellectual production, a total of 4,297 articles was published in national and international journals with the participation of PhD trained in EPE, with a ratio of 20 articles per researcher. All PhDs trained in EPE were or are supervisors of undergraduate and graduate students, in broad and/or strict sense courses, with a total of 9,585 undergraduate and graduate students supervised, or 44 supervisions per PhD trained, highlighting that several of them were or are coordinators of graduation programs in Brazil.

These data allow us to see the relevance of the Doctoral Course in the training of researchers. We are proud of the PhD graduates for their contribution to the qualified training and scientific development of high level professionals in Brazil.

With view to celebrate this moment, we have idealized a scientific event that will allow us to celebrate the success achieved in these 30 years of the PhD course, identify gaps and opportunities for improvement, and move into the future. We will have the participation of national and international renown guests, and presentation of about 90 scientific posters. We hope to enjoy a unique sharing moment and stimulus for the continuous advancement of the health research and nursing art.

\*The event Doctorate in Nursing at UNIFESP: contributions to the advancement of science and art, in commemoration the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Doctoral Course (Nursing Graduation Program, *Escola Paulista de Enfermagem*; to be held from Nov 30 to Dec 01, 2016), received financial support from the Coordination for the Improvement of High Level Personnel (CAPES, Process n° 8881.122606/2016-01), National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq, Process n° 436755/2016-5), and São Paulo State Research Foundation (FAPESP, Process n° 2016/16049-7).

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