

## EDITORIAL

*Dra. Irene Marchesan*

The Sociedade Brasileira de Fonoaudiologia (Brazilian Society of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology – SBFa) will promote one more National Congress from October 31<sup>st</sup> to November 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will be SBFa's 20<sup>th</sup> congress. In all previous congresses there were novelties, changes and improvements destined to guarantee the success of the event. All the previous board members have sought to contribute in their best way and, actually, it has always happened: all the previous congresses were in fact a great success. Mistakes and troubles always exist; they are part of any human activity. Perfection is just a dream, and the problem is that the dream is frequently different for each board member or participant, which makes perfection impossible because it is a different thing for each one of us.

The present board is not better or worse than the previous one. It is also not the first or the last to organize a SBFa Congress. The board is basically a group of SLPs and Audiologists that dream of the perfect congress. The struggle to reach the never-achieved perfection is truly an internal fight that leads to the tentative to overcome what happened in the prior events. It is very good because it leads to changes that are good for some, regular for others and also bad for others. Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology is the great beneficiary of these changes.

In our board nothing occurs in a different way from what happened before. During the months before the congress there is a fever among all those involved in its organization. It is something like a disease, such are the internal conflicts, the anxiety and the fear added to the mental and physical exhaustion in the process of considering and solving all the details and glitches.

All the board groups wish to leave its mark. What are we doing to overcome what has already been done? We created a motto: “democracy”; and it is followed on each step taken. Everything is equally divided by all groups. It may seem strange, but working with democracy is much more difficult than not doing it. Division in equal parts on a congress will be really just? We don't know, but this is the motto we will follow, and only after a congress it is possible to know if that year's proposal was good or not.

It is a risk not to be repetitive, but if we do not take chances we do not change the history and do not put the wheels in motion. One room for each department, equal number of sessions for all, asking suggestion of speakers to all universities, equal number of prizes for scientific works in all departments, total freedom for the departments to decide their program and speakers, almost an anarchy. However, a new order may emerge from anarchy. This new order may be reestablished with more rigor and control than before, or be built on other bases.

Surprise for all! How will SBFa be after this congress? We don't know. We will know it only at the end, when we will receive the praises and the critics. The most important of it all is that no one should lose something as diverse as what will happen. Only the participants will make history.

I will wait for you at the congress, because you are just like me: a speech-language pathologist/audiologist passionate for what you do.

*Irene Queiroz Marchesan*  
*President of SBFa 2012-2013*