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Internationalization: permeating the frontiers of knowledge in nursing

Maria Lígia dos Reis Bellaguarda^I ORCID: 0000-0001-9998-3040

Paulo Joaquim Pina Queirós^{II} ORCID: 0000-0003-1817-612X

^I Pós-Graduação em Enfermagem. Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Florianópolis, SC. Brasil.

^{II} Escola Superior de Enfermagem de Coimbra. Unidade de Investigação em Ciências da Saúde. Coimbra, Portugal.

The knowledge that history presents comes from the interpretative reconstitution of the past, which brings up to date the notion for people of co-participation in events, from the very beginning of humanity. This in an allusion to yesterday, which helps in the understanding and readings of today in the field of science and life in society. In the work of the historian it matters “first, the examination of the past through its marks, then the mental representation that results from that examination, and finally the production of a written or oral text that makes it possible to communicate with others”^(1:16). History is the opportunity to feel present in moments that are known through the rhetoric and writing of historians. Knowing that “the historian describes, he does not resurrect what was. He never manages to pass from knowing to being. He produces discourses with which he intends to capture in the order of the intellect the being of events”^(2:14). This dynamic that history provides is what makes possible the understanding and transformation of sociality, the world of things and events.

Overcoming these limits of communication and socialization, where there is an exchange of expertise and experience, globalizes opportunities and internationalizes knowledge in all areas of knowledge. And, history is the science available to us to show the past facts and draw from them transformative elements. In this sense, internationalization shows promise in the exchange of knowledge, which takes place through initiatives in education, research, university extension, and by the political and economic bodies of each country. Internationalization creates spaces for formal integration. It is not limited to the strengthening of partnerships but aims for these articulations to give birth to projects and innovations that effectively contribute to the quality of goods and services and result in usefulness⁽³⁾.

The internationalization of the history of nursing, considering the factual differences in the various contexts analyzed per se, or in comparison, and analytically reflecting upon them, opens spaces and paths for new readings and more grounded visions of past paths and events. Similar processes that took place in different geographies have specific nuances or even their own historicity that enriches the interpretation of the past without abusive generalizations, without presentism, and without anachronisms. The internationalization of research in nursing history, through the identification of different historical paths, in different geographic contexts and of similarities, constitutes a methodological filter on the path to possible historical objectivity.

Corresponding author

Maria Lígia dos Reis
Bellaguarda

E-mail: [bellaguardaml@
gmail.com](mailto:bellaguardaml@gmail.com)

In education and health, the advancement of science, technology and the evolution of qualified care practices, has in the internationalization an important initiative. Since it contributes to the training of human resources, to the organization of multicenter collaborative projects, and to the innovation of resources and educational and care strategies. Specifically, in the nursing area, internationalization has proven to be productive and of intellectual consolidation in clinical nursing in chronic, acute, and surgical health conditions at all stages of the human living process and in varied health care spaces⁽⁴⁻⁵⁾.

The exchange of education/training in nursing has in the Higher Education Institutions the organization to instigate international cooperation. There are institutional incentives and incentives for short-, medium- and long-term courses, events, programs and innovations. This requires policies that expand these incentives in terms of investment capital by the governments and political and economic institutions of the countries.

In the specialty of Nursing History, international partnerships have been permeable in the sense of strengthening this specific area of knowledge.

Presenting, the internationalization in the theoretical and practical field of the scope of knowledge in history, one has the singularity. Highlighting, the relevance of the historical production of nursing for the construction and consolidation of expertise and autonomous professionalism, art and science of the professional nurse and nurse. A relationship which is also established by productions based on methodologies in history within the profession, clarifying and increasing nursing education and assistance.

It is then elucidated, the impacts that the study of history, of the history of nursing reflect in the assistance to people, in the processes of professionalization, in the disciplinary construction, to the extent that “everything that happens in Time has a “before”, and an “after”; it has reasons and consequences. History links events by means of the chaining of facts... But what interests the historian is not exactly what remains, but mutation”^(6:32). Through the history of nursing we identify lines of continuity and rupture in the forms of care, in the defining concepts of the discipline, in the presence within multidisciplinary teams, in the processes of professionalization, power games and autonomization.

Internationalization occurs, primarily, when there is an intention on the part of professionals to raise their level of creativity and intellectuality and to be open to the new. Reiterating, in this sense, the historical studies as sources of perception and point of understanding and transformation of what is set. And showing that everything is the result of a historical process where cultural, ethos, and social permeability create stronger collectives at the level of ethics, science, and technology. In these assertions, the permeability of the borders for knowledge in Nursing History is essential to not take the part, the localized knowledge as being the whole.

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