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Nursing faculty of the rio de janeiro state university: 70 years of its trajectory

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The present year of 2018 is special to the Nursing Faculty of the Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ/ENF) for completing 70 years of existence. It is very important for everyone who is part of this story, because it brings moments of reflection that allow us to evaluate what we have been through these seven decades and what we have achieved until today. There are 70 years of struggles and victories for the formation and development of nurses and of nursing at Rio de Janeiro.

Founded in 1944 as the Nursing School of the Federal District City Hall, at that time the capital of the country, it became operational in 1948 as Nursing School Rachel Haddock Lobo, named after the first Brazilian director of the Anna Nery Nursing School. It had as its idealizer the professor Zaíra Cintra Vidal responsible for planning and organizing pedagogically and administratively such audacious project, which was already equated to the Standard School when created¹.

Since then, UERJ Nursing School has pursued the maintenance of this standard, which initially involved struggles to improve its facilities. The first head office was installed in a building annexed to the Hospital of communicable diseases in Caju, a place considered inappropriate by Zaíra to house selected girls attending the newly created school. Soon she took the initiative to obtain another appropriate place for the second head office - a building built to be a hospital that has never worked as such. However, a proper head office was required for the installation of classrooms and housing for students, a common practice to nursing schools at the time. Its current address was the result of negotiations with the Federal District City Hall that gave away a land in Vila Izabel and authorized the construction of the unit.

Another highlight concerns the insertion of the School at the Rio de Janeiro State University, then Guanabara State University, driven by legislations of 1949 which was about nursing education and the incorporation of nursing education into universities. Its directors then began to negotiate such feat. In general, there were four attempts, whose achievement was performed by Nalva Pereira Caldas in 1961 and carried out in 1963.

However, during the processes of incorporation, there were confrontations as the resistance of the Federal District City Hall to give the institution. At the end of the negotiations, the financial increase was removed, impacting on the payment of the teachers and the construction of the building, the

current head office of the School. Another implication was that the nurses who worked in the school were not considered teachers but only nurses. Because of that, they could not be directors.

Due to the impossibility of the nurses assume the direction of the School, an expert professor was elected to its direction and remained there for eight years (1963-1971), developing activities in partnership with the nurses teachers. It was in this time that the school was renamed Nursing Faculty of the Guanabara State University, a standard of the institution. Although alliances and partnerships were established, strategies were sought to return the direction of the school to the nurses' hands. Professor Nalva Pereira Caldas had played a central role in this movement, and in 1971 a nurse takes over the direction of the Nursing School.

On those 70 years of existence, since your creation dedicated to technical-professional education and specialized in nursing, as well as to improve the knowledge of the nursing staff of the City Hall, the School concerned with the quality of education and left its mark to the country education, leading its students to a better academic level. For this, it was necessary to constantly be ahead of time and involve its institutional administratives in social decisions, which led it to be recognized by its academic excellence, not only by the evaluative processes but also by institutional choices made by its directors. Because of that, the search for help society's health needs was consolidated over time, not only in the academic field but also in the political field.

Based on the desired quality, the Nursing School developed curricular revisions, imposed by the government or not, including themes which was not contemplated in the educational legislation, but interesting for the nurses' academic formation. Thus, since the 1970s, it has always maintained the disciplines of Public Health, Education and Nursing Research, which contributed to becoming a pioneer in the implementation of the first scientific journal of nursing in the State of Rio de Janeiro.

In 1982, the curriculum presents as a differential the revision of the curricular internship for a didactic-pedagogical proposal in the form of boarding school, whose central focus is the development of full-time theoretical and practical activities².

The current curriculum is based on the integrality-dialog-autonomy paradigm, based on critical education and the problematization of reality, which generates a learning process from the action-reflection-action reflected, enabling nurses with high technical-scientific-ethical standard³.

Considering these antecedents and doing a historical retrospective, we highlight the efforts made to integrate service-learning-research; for the creation of nursing update and improvement courses, which soon became specialization courses; for the incorporation of the multiprofessional residency of the University Hospital Pedro Ernesto, with 12 training programmes; for the creation of the first nursing specialization in Stomatherapy in Rio de Janeiro, with the opening of the Nursing clinic Piquet Carneiro Polyclinic in Stomatherapy; for the implementation, in 1999, of the academic master's degree course and, in 2010, the PhD course, which has contributed to the development of the research field and boosting interinstitutional national and international partnership. In addition to these achievements, the students are encouraged to develop academic monitoring, additional internal internship, scientific initiation projects and international exchanges for graduation⁴.

The extension course to help the community has always been clear and had a distinct position within the University, developing activities together with the community. It is recognized as the unit that develops more extension projects, with scholarship to the academics.

It is also recognized by its distinct position in the development of the political process participation in the nursing field in Rio de Janeiro. The working professionals from this institution are engaged in maintenance and creation of the class. We highlight the participation in the creation of the nursing Board and the institution of the Nurses' Union in Rio de Janeiro, as well as the participation in various managements of the Brazilian Association of nursing section-RJ and nationwide. Such actions are unquestionably important and in perfect harmony with institutional principles.

The Nursing Faculty of UERJ not only works in the academic field focused on scientific and technological development in the health area, but also works for human rights, among them health, especially with regard to the maintenance of the Unified Health System, nationally, regionally and locally. Another aspect of significant action is the effective social action, with the purpose of supporting the training of young people entering college level education, when it adheres to affirmative action policy aimed at democratizing access to higher education.

However, it should be emphasized that during the trajectory of the Nursing Faculty it did not pass unscathed by the achieved achievements. There were moments of fighting, strikes, governmental take-downs and institutional crises that strengthened it and that made it withstand the difficult moments. And such moments reinforce its purpose in carrying forward, with responsibility, its important role in training future generations of nurses.

Congratulations to this young lady who reinvents herself every day. We are grateful not only to those who have helped build part of this story, but to those who currently have contributed to the maintenance of its success.

Nursing UERJ resists!

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