



The School of Dentistry of UERJ completes 50 years

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• Conflicts of interest: none declared.

Dear Editor,

It is with great satisfaction that in this year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the School of Dentistry of UERJ, we should feel happy, remember and rethink in the past and what will be in the future... but with an understandable dose of concern about the political instability that affects the State of Rio de Janeiro and the entire Brazilian nation.

UERJ is a pioneer University in several factors that favored social inclusion, such as the creation of more vacancies and night courses, quota system and courses for the elderly. It is a place of scientific knowledge and production of great importance in the City and the country, being among the ten best in Brazil.

The School of Dentistry is an integral and indissociated part of this University, it has formed in these 50 years, professionals who work in several dental specialties, as well as in the teaching area in all States of the Federation, coming from the postgraduate, masters and doctorate courses, which are configured as postgraduate of great excellence.

The history of School of Dentistry of UERJ in 50 years was written with a lot of struggle and commitment, beginning with a group of professionals of Dentistry and professors who idealized a new School of Dentistry in the then State of Guanabara.¹ Founded in 1968 and with daily dedication of teachers, administrative technicians and student team has been increasing and maintaining itself as a unit of reference. The celebration of the golden jubilee is a time to look to the future, but also a moment to thank, because the University is made up of people. And the people who are responsible to give identity and structure to achieve your goals.

Graduates are considered to be highly qualified professionals. In recent years, the number of researches has been increasing in geometric progression, whether from the point of view of Evidence-Based Dentistry or the evaluation of subjective questions.

School of Dentistry of UERJ has complied the rules of the National Curricular Guidelines for the Dentistry Course.² Although it has always trained dentists for the problems of the population, it has made efforts for its graduates to have a broader action of oral health problems. The patient in part of the biopsychosocial context, so the dentists should be generalists, critics, reflexives and that have a humanized behavior,

because this is not restricted for health promotion but also to recover lost health.

The investment that the School has to build a student with this profile is very large, but it is possible. Freidson³ says that different members of the same profession may come up with different ideas and still be considered legitimate members. In this way, it is known that these professionals will express themselves differently, but will take with them valuable principles rooted in their formation.

The perception of the oral condition is an important health indicator, because it shows the actual health condition, subjective responses, values and cultural expectations. Therefore, Dentistry is a science that assumes great benefit in the health of populations. Although Brazil is among the countries with low prevalence of caries, according to the World Health Organization, the National Oral Health Survey shows that more than half of the Brazilian population (56%) present the problem, so School of Dentistry of UERJ constitutes a promising mechanism for the future of a Brazilian population with more oral health, with more quality of life.⁴

It is important to emphasize the financial breakdown of state of Rio de Janeiro in recent years has left many damages. The year 2017 was one of the more difficult in the history of UERJ. The Institution lived the worst crisis in 66 years of your life. The slogan “UERJ Resiste” figured on social networks, T-shirts and turned the war cry into demonstrations. The lack of payment of wages affected professors, technical-administrative, but also other sectors such as cleaning the campus. Now, in 2018, the condition has improved somewhat. Scholars, professors and staff already are receive your salary up-to-date; but the state still owes \$ 156 million to suppliers, and the amount invested in research has been reset. But in the face of so many dark days, hope is gradually consolidating and believing that the persistence of human foundations will keep the Institution standing.

All the people who have been in the University, created an identity, a feeling of unity with colleagues, gratitude and stimulus for the study. School of Dentistry of UERJ marked the heart of who was in their classrooms, in the dental chairs or was somehow part of its history.



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Mini Curriculum and Author's Contribution

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