



Editorial 2

First Meeting of the Academic Transplant and Surgery Leagues: discussion, plans, practices and actions

The Academic Student Leagues have a recent history, particularly within the context of medical education. However, since their creation, they have been able to influence and promote changes. They have been also equally influenced by the environment in which they are inserted, undergoing transformations and improvements.

Both because of the academic milieu in which they are inserted and of the social context of the time, the Leagues have always been a reflex of the needs of the students and, indirectly, of society regarding the type of education, medical activity, and doctor-patient relationship.

In addition, both the creation of a League and the reason why the students wish to participate in these groups are variable, demonstrating how this topic is stimulating and liable to discussion.

We are currently going through a period of change during which a reform and expansion of the role

of the Leagues in academic medical education have be-

come necessary since, regardless of their objectives or the times, the Leagues have always been a channel for the voice of students regarding Medical Education in the country.

On this basis, it is against this background that the First Meeting of the Academic Transplant and Surgery Leagues will be held on October 20, 2012 in the city of Ribeirão Preto, SP, as one of the activities of the VII Brazilian Congress of Liver, Pancreas and Small Bowel Transplantation.

This is an event commemorating the 60 years of the Faculty of Medicine of Ribeirão Preto, a date that causes us to reflect about the trajectory of this institution in our Country. When considering the history of this Faculty, it can be seen how important the activity of these groups has been within the institution.



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Therefore, with the objective of uniting students from various medical schools during this event, which is especially dedicated to university students, a discussion of the roles of the Academic Leagues and of research groups mainly in this area is encouraged, describing what has been done so far inside and outside the Universities and what can be done in the future.

The structure of the event is based on discussions of the activity of the students regarding the transplant topic, the forms of activity, the role the leagues play within this scenario, and the influence of the topic on academic training and medical education. From their founding to their current activities, the perspectives of these leagues and the survey of their plans and solu-

tions of problems in order to overcome current barriers will be topics of this Meeting, which above all intends to encourage the exchange of experiences to stimulate improvement, changes and multicenter research, to promote new interests and ties with various groups associated with the topic such as ABTO, and perhaps to develop a group of future transplant surgeons.

The First Meeting of Academic Leagues will be the beginning and a stimulus of discussion and promotion of actions within this area, so enriching not only for the students that compose it, but also for the entire academic community that surrounds and influences it and for society itself, which reaps the rewards of its actions.