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Editorial

Interdisciplinarity: challenges for research and publication

Interdisciplinarity is a conditio sine qua non for the development of science, technology, and innovation. It comprises actual problems and needs, aiming at integrative solutions, being crucial to knowledge generation, and it does not derive only from joining knowledge from different areas, but from joining and sharing knowledge, skills, and methods that operationalize the creation of new concepts and techniques arising from this junction. Interdisciplinary research, due to its very nature, results in new theoretical and methodological approaches and contribution to the formulation of new paradigms.

In recent years, the need for conducting interdisciplinary researches has been presented and discussed, including specific lines of incentive from funding agencies, government, and industry. However, there are still some difficulties, mainly because we are used to insert, define, or classify professionals and researches into "compartments". We master numerous possibilities for separating into compartments, however, we do not know how to work to enable a joined view of them. This shows that we are not prepared for interdisciplinarity. We may cite, for instance, a project of electronic record for preventing chronic kidney disease using patterns to develop health care information systems that do not fit the specific needs of computer science or public health. In this case, we would have a project from two areas involving another one, but it would not join them.

Another difficulty observed is that there are still few journals that do accept articles not derived from a specific area or those whose authors are from a graduation area different from the main area of the journal.

Physical Therapy in Movement is a key vehicle for the dissemination of results from interdisciplinary studies, due to its comprehensive view of the area and the diversity of its board of reviewers. Studies involving human movement, biomechanics, and evaluation of health care technologies, for instance, are inherently interdisciplinary and themes recurrently addressed in this journal. It works in partnership with the Graduate Program in Health Care Technology of Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná (PPGTS/PUCPR), which is interdisciplinary and has just turned 10 years old, whose researches join technology and health care. This collaboration, in addition to expanding the board of reviewers who work in an interdisciplinary way, enabled the bilingual version, which, from the next volume on, will be expanded, getting close to the total number of published articles.

I hope everyone has great readings and that we can increasingly propose solutions to translate interdisciplinarity into research and publication, since the complexity of science is of such magnitude that no single area would be able to meet the growing demands presented each day to citizens, governments, and research institutions. I dedicate the most effusive thanks to the reviewers that, over this year, devoted their best efforts so that the four issues were published.

Last but not least, I wish you all a Christmas full of blessings and solidarity!.

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