



## Editorial

### Facing the process to become a World Class University

During many years Brazilian universities have been driven by the dogma that they must have actions centered in three fundamental pillars: teaching, corporate research, and community engagement. In a general manner, high-standard universities following this doctrine have achieved the expected goals for our immediate necessities. In recent decades, the access to university has been facilitated by governmental programs; more thesis-based MSc and PhD students have graduated; the participation in the international scientific production has “jumped” to a reasonable good level; and many actions have resulted in direct or active participation in sustainable socio-economic development and welfare.

Nowadays, high-standard universities face new challenges and must interact across their national boundaries becoming World Class Universities. Different people have different point of view regarding to World Class Universities. After data mining, I found the World Bank’s document “The challenge of establishing world-class universities”, written by Salmi<sup>1</sup> (2008), whose reading I strongly encourage. Salmi depicts the whys, hows, dos and don’ts about the matter in deep and properly. Excellence is the main key-word and terms as “concentration of talents”, “abundant resources” and “favorable governance” are mandatory for the maturity of World Class Universities.

At-a-glance, it may be misunderstood as technicism. To avoid this, Schwartzman<sup>2</sup> (2005) states that “world class universities should develop science and technology, but also *persons* endowed with culture, general education, and the ability to understand what is happening in one’s country and the world”. Some other terms as plurality, universality, etc. shall be joined to those above to create not only skilled professionals but true world citizens.

In this context, the higher collegiate of the Pontifical Catholic University of Parana (PUCPR) opens a window to near future proposing to its academic community to become a pioneering world class university in Brazil within ten years. More than a Herculean challenge it must be faced as a commitment that will improve the quality of teaching and research.

Obviously, it will demand an incredible effort by all professors and students. Once it is expected that we will experience a constant transit of students from overseas, the lectures’ structure must be changed with

---

<sup>1</sup> Salmi J. The Challenge of Establishing World-class Universities. Washington, DC, World Bank. 2009. [access 10 mar. 2011]. Available at: <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EDUCATION/Resources/278200-1099079877269/547664-1099079956815/547670-1237305262556/WCU.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Schwartzman S. Brazil’s Leading University: Between Intelligentsia, World Standards and Social Inclusion. Instituto de Estudos do Trabalho e Sociedade, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. 2005. [access 10 mar. 2011]. Available at: <http://www.schwartzman.org.br/simon/worldclass.pdf>

some disciplines in English/Spanish/German/... Our office for international affairs must be expanded. Our Brazilian students must be prepared to share space with others from different ethnies, heritage and habits.

The Graduate Program in Dentistry is centering efforts to capacitate its professors to attend such a requirement. Some of them are already engaged with research and teaching groups from United Kingdom, United States, Hong Kong, Belgium, Australia, among others. Activities as sabbatical visits, post-doctoral programs, invitation of distinguished lecturers, etc. are in course and certainly will build new bridges and consolidate existing contacts and partnerships.

Recognition of professors' efforts to transform PUCPR into a world class university certainly will happen every time one of our students are accepted in graduate programs worldwide, take active part in international events, or even follow an international career.

**Edvaldo Antonio Ribeiro Rosa**  
BPharm, MSc, PhD



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Short root anomaly of a single tooth: a rare finding

## *Anomalia de raiz curta em um único dente: um achado raro*

**R. Vineetha<sup>[a]</sup>, Keerthilatha M. Pai<sup>[b]</sup>, Ajay G. Nayak<sup>[c]</sup>, Yogesh Chhapparwal<sup>[a]</sup>**

<sup>[a]</sup> MDS, BDS, Assistant Professor, Department of Oral Medicine & Radiology, Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Manipal - India, e-mail: drvineetha@rediffmail.com

<sup>[b]</sup> MDS, BDS, Professor & Head, Department of Oral Medicine & Radiology, Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Manipal - India.

<sup>[c]</sup> MDS, BDS, Reader, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, MGVS Karmaveer Bhausaheb Hiray Dental College, Panchavati, Nashik, Maharashtra - India.

---

We would like to share an interesting radiographic finding in a first premolar (Figure 1). A 45-year-old female patient reported of food impaction in her left mandibular molar, for which endodontic treatment with metallic crown was done three years ago. A periapical radiograph of the molars in that quadrant incidentally revealed a short root/abnormal small length of first premolar root compared to other permanent teeth. Crown size and shape were normal, but the root was showing characteristic morphology of a completed root formation with conical shaped apex. The length of the root, however, was almost half of the usual size with a crown-root ratio of approximately 1:1. Intact periodontal

ligament space and a continuous lamina dura were noticed around the tooth. Normal bony trabeculae were seen surrounding the root, not suggestive of any pathologic changes. The root canal was extending almost until the apex of the tooth. No history of previous trauma, orthodontic treatment or any other dental procedures was reported. On further clinical examination of the tooth, the crown appeared to be exactly similar in colour, size and morphology as the other premolars with no evidence of decay or mobility. The tooth vitality was confirmed by thermal and electrical vitality test.

Thus, two main possibilities were considered for diagnosis, external resorption of the root or a