THE FUTURE OF TEACHING AFTER THE PANDEMIC
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The future is like that, too.

FUTURE CAN BE GRAND AS YOUR DREAMS

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AND THIS IS HOW WE MAKE PUCRS A UNIVERSITY AS GRAND AS THE FUTURE, COME WHAT MAY.
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Several months after an intensive and detailed quest for stories, PUCRS Magazine is back with a fresh look! This edition will be released both in print and digital formats, in Portuguese and English, featuring high-quality content in a variety of topics associated with the universe of our university community.

You will also have a chance to get full access to some of the articles, as they are available on our web portal, too.

Write to us! Your opinion and suggestions for articles are very much welcome!

PUCRS Magazine team
JÁ PODEMOS FALAR DE FUTURO?

Being around for more than four decades, this new edition of PUCRS Magazine has been produced with a new graphic and editorial identity. Moved by the uncertainties of a new future, our desire to create and see changes are also evidenced here. A special report invites us to think what post-pandemic teaching will be like: the future with new teaching and learning processes and all the complexity of the relationships involved in this dynamics.

This publication also brings reports in other areas, such as science, innovation and spirituality. It also shows a little bit about the people who give their best every day of their lives for us to carry on together.

We are going through an unprecedented moment in the contemporary history of humanity! A new beginning is calling for patience, boldness and hope from each and every one of us. Enjoy the reading!

REITOR

CAN WE NOW TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE?

Com mais de quatro décadas de existência, a partir desta edição, a revista PUCRS traz uma nova identidade gráfica e editorial. Estimulados pelas inquietações de um novo futuro, nossa vontade de criar e de ver mudanças também se manifestaram por aqui. Nossa matéria especial nos convida a pensar como será o ensino pós-pandemia, esse novo amanhã com relação aos processos de ensino e aprendizado e toda a complexidade das relações que envolve essa dinâmica.

Essa publicação também traz outros assuntos, como os relacionados à ciência, à inovação, à espiritualidade. Traz ainda uma pequena amostra das pessoas que entregam o seu melhor diariamente para que possamos seguir juntos.

Estamos em um momento único na história contemporânea da humanidade! Um novo começo requer de nós paciência, ousadia e esperança. Boa leitura!
Without a shadow of a doubt, 2020 will also be marked by drastic changes in the way people teach and learn. Being there for each other may have been the right thing to do for students and professors to overcome their limits together. We invited a first-year and a last-year student to tell us what it was like to go through this moment in such an unusual year. Manoela welcomed a new cycle. Fillipe was getting ready to say goodbye to college. Both were on the verge of beginning a new moment in their lives.

A first-year and a last-year student report the battle they had to face in the first semester of the year.
Dear Future Me,

Letters to remind us all what life under quarantine was like.

QUESTION EVERYTHING
“CLASSES SERVED AS ANTIDEPRESSANTS”

At the age of 19, freshman student Manoela Tamiozzo could not imagine that the beginning of her college studies, in March 2020, could be at risk. A few months earlier, her heart had beaten faster when she learned about PUCRS’ Creative Writing program. At that moment, she realized that her dream of becoming a writer was beginning to take shape.

“On the first few days (we had less than 10 days of face-to-face classes) I was delighted with the Campus: my eyes would shine, especially when I walked by the library. I just thought I needed to make the most of it. That’s why I arrived earlier than my class to enjoy every bit of it”.

But then we were warned of the pandemic and that classes would have to be taught remotely. “It was a shock for me. I had never used Moodle, I didn’t know what classes would be like and I still had to adapt to the class and the professors”.

As the semester went on, Manoela now understands that this has been an intense learning experience. “The University was also very supportive in this regard. I was a first-year student with many insecurities. I asked for help many times and the services were outstanding”.

As for remote classes, Tamiozzi is very positive about them. “In a way, I had a chance to feel more relaxed and be who I really am as I could see everyone through a “small screen”. At times when I had to do my assigned readings, I didn’t feel my heart racing or my hand sweating, I really saw everyone as friends. We are always supportive of one another. Despite these difficult moments we are going through, each one of us, in our own way, has made a meaningful contribution. I jokingly tell people that classes were like antidepressants that relieved the pain of such tragic news we heard and saw every day over the past few months”.

PHOTOS: BRUNO TODESCHINI
“NOT ONLY ME, BUT MY ENTIRE FAMILY, DREAMED OF ME TAKING THE STAGE”

The relationship of the 28-year-old student, Fillipe Figueiró, with PUCRS dates back from long ago. As an Elementary School student, he paid a visit to the Science and Technology Museum. And that place grabbed his attention in unthinkable ways. “At that time, I got a backpack with the logo of the Engineering program on it. By irony of fate, that was the program I eventually chose to go to.”

The year of 2020 would mark the end of a cycle for Fillipe. The Electrical Engineering major was about to complete a very important stage as he was preparing for his commencement ceremony in the first semester. “I can say that I had mixed feelings as I was happy about an achievement, but sad about the chaotic reality upon us. I was preparing to finish my degree, to take the stage, to throw caps and live a dream that was not only my dream, but my whole family’s”.

One of the strategies Fillipe developed to deal with such an uncertain moment was to have a thankful attitude. “I wouldn’t be able to study Engineering at PUCRS if it wasn’t for my ENEM scores. So I was thankful for having access to such an institution as PUCRS and its laboratories whose equipment, as far as I know, cannot be found in any other university. I also realized that, despite the difficulties, I was at a University whose structure made emergency remote education possible. In particular, the experience of being one of the representatives of the commencement committee, and being attentive to what my classmates had to say, was as challenging as having to adapt to remote education, as I had to represent them and try to find a better solution. After all, I was not dealing only with my own feelings”.

Check out our channel: Fillipe’s family could attend his commencement ceremony live on YouTube.
Three reports from (outside of) the classroom representing a universe of possibilities and resilience

WHAT WILL THE TEACHERS OF THE FUTURE BE LIKE?

One of PUCRS’ long-time professors. One of the institution’s youngest professors. And the one who saw in a 3D simulator the possibility to give students the chance to develop practicum work. PUCRS’ greatest asset is its faculty.

“THE WORD IS OUR MEANS”

The 45-year career as a professor at PUCRS, the ease of adaptation, resilience and the joint efforts of students who are accustomed to digital life were the formula for Prof. Dr. Luiz Antônio de Assis Brasil to go through the rapid changes imposed on the classes.
in the Creative Writing program during the pandemic.

At the age of 75, Assis Brasil was one of the many professors who were recognized for how easy he dealt with remote classes in the first semester of 2020, and for his immediate adaptation to technology. “You know, I was one of the first professors who used a computer, way back in the 1990s. Some colleague writers were a bit too resistant, but I have been open to changes. As for remote classes, I tried to make them as natural as face-to-face classes, as I left the microphones open, for example. This ensured a sense of spontaneity, very similar to what the face-to-face classes would be like. After the first few weeks, I felt like I had been doing this forever”.

“I tried to get into the digital arena and used the available resources to apply the methodology accordingly. We did have some problems, though. For instance, as when we needed to share articles, which were hard for students to see as they had no means to view them other than their cell phones. At that moment, I saw their interest in trying to address this problem, in investing in equipment that would get them to do better in class”.

In this process, Assis Brasil highlights the faculty’s experience and training, the consolidation of the Creative Writing program at PUCRS, and the most expensive resource that this field has: the word. “It’s a long history of 35 years in extension programs. Now, we have the undergraduate and graduate programs (MA and PhD) in Creative Writing. We are experienced and fully trained. On top of that, we deal with the word: it is what brings us together, it is our means, a privileged means of expression”.
“PROFESSORS NEED TO BE ATTENTIVE TO LISTEN TO STUDENTS”

Professor Dr. Karen Sica sought to take a lighter approach to the classes she teaches at the Business School and at the School of Communications, Arts and Design (Famecos), as she established intense dialogue with students in the past semester. “I asked my students about the best way to work and, little by little, I started to understand each group and did my job differently. I learned a lot from that experience.”

Karen believes this is a moment for us to revisit teaching. “Why not work remotely with students? Why is it that some people still see online classes as distance learning? We had the chance to bring new experiences to students, giving them more freedom to think and also to work according to their possibilities.” Karen has been working with digital technologies for a long time and understands that this has made the adaptation to classes easier during this period.

“For some groups, asynchronous activities worked really well with the recorded videos and live classes during class time. For these groups, I was available during class time, via zoom, to answer questions, to know what we could do better, what they expected from that class, from the course and from the video that was recorded and made available on Moodle. For other groups, real-time classes worked much better as I delivered the topics that needed to be delivered and interacted with the students. I always tried to connect and be open for them to talk. Sometimes I saw myself much more present in class, with students inside our homes, us inside our students’ homes, as we had the chance to see each other’s routine. Many of them also shared their anxieties and needs in the class. This brought the students closer together. Professors need to be open to listen to students, take responsibility to address their needs, and be aware of the technologies that facilitate and make the teaching experience more welcoming.”

In March 2020, classes at the University went ‘virtual’ in only 48 hours.
“HUMAN ANATOMY IN 3D?”

There is something unquestionable about the course on Human Anatomy: there is a real need for practicum work*. What should we do in the face of a scenario that forced us to adapt so quickly? In 2019, Prof. Dr. Denizar Melo began using the Complete Anatomy in his face-to-face classes. That is a software program that shows the anatomic structures in 3D. “The program allows users to dissect the structures digitally, and students to visualize items such as the organ’s depth, location, morphological organization, etc.”, he explains.

Because of emergency remote teaching, Denizar used the program in a different way. This time, I was joined by students and other professors. Due to the complexity of synchronous classes, he chose to work jointly with other professors and share the responsibilities in his classes both in the Medicine and Dentistry programs.

“We have adapted so naturally that, as we were exploring the software programs in synchronous classes, we could see more possibilities and features. In face-to-face classes, the problem was that most students did not have access to the program and only viewed the content while they were in class. With remote classes, the content was automatically streamed and made available on Moodle. This allowed students to review and access the images and explanations, in their own time, as often as they wanted”.

At the end of the semester, some complementary face-to-face practicum classes were offered, in accordance with PUCRS’ Institutional Plan for Risk Prevention and Reduction, in view of State and Municipal decrees.
Legacies of a task force

University’s efforts sought quick responses to the pandemic

BY EDUARDO WOLFF

On Mar 17, 2020, the Ministry of Health reported the first death from the novel coronavirus in Brazil. Two days later, on Mar 19, a multidisciplinary task force began its operation at PUCRS. As time went by, the number of transmissions grew at alarming rates, and so did the number of infected people and lives lost to Covid-19.

An extraordinary meeting was assembled by PUCRS’ Senior Vice President and Director of the Brain Institute (BraIns), Dr. Jaderson Costa da Costa. “The same strategy applied at BraIns has been employed, as the Institute brings together a variety of specialties. The University congregates all these areas and this urged us to implement this task force immediately. Everyone was motivated to give their time and knowledge”, he adds.

The initial conversations occurred on WhatsApp groups. “We got ideas coming in every minute, even late at night. Right now, every group is meeting online every day, and another weekly meeting is being held with representatives of these teams”, da Costa says.
THE WORLD CAME TOGETHER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE PANDEMIC. SOCIETY BENEFITED GREATLY FROM THE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE OF UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES”.

JADERSON COSTA DA COSTA
It did not take long for 57 professionals to join forces in the task force, which started with six working groups, but now has 12. This initiative involves Brains, Tecnopuc and São Lucas Hospital as well as the School of Medicine, School of Humanities, School of Technology and School of Health and Life Sciences.

With the mission of organizing these teams, the coordinator of the Image Processing and Geoprocessing Laboratory, Dr. Regis Lahm, literally provides maps to guide decision making. “We have to work on the data, after mapping out and spatializing the necessary information, such as, for example, ICU saturation”, he adds.

Lahm also points out that an online platform has been developed for participants to exchange ideas. “The works are interconnected and developed in real time, as successful practices are shared,” he says.

LARGE NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS
More than 50 investigations seeking to address questions regarding Covid-19 are being developed at the University. This has been pointed out by PUCRS’ Dean of Research, Dr. Fernanda Morrone. She also highlights more than 500 research structures (which include laboratories, multidisciplinary and regular
centers and institutes), where studies with national and international partners are being conducted. “This includes the only laboratory equipped with the required biosafety level (NB3) for handling the novel coronavirus in Rio Grande do Sul, which is located at the Center for Research into Molecular and Functional Biology, accountable to the School of Health and Life Sciences”, she adds.

SOLUTIONS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Only one month after the pandemic began in Brazil, a new test to identify people who are negative for Covid-19 could be applied more quickly and less costly. The test was coordinated by School of Medicine professor and researcher, Dr. Daniel Marinovic. “The tests were requested by health facilities, home care providers, food and technology companies, among others. A great example was a slaughterhouse we went to in the city of Rondonópolis, in the state of Mato Grosso. We hopped on a chartered flight on a Wednesday and collected 970 samples in one day. On Sunday results came out and that allowed for the company to keep that unit open”, he recalls.

Another solution developed was the InCare platform, which helps to identify Covid-19 symptoms. In partnership with the company DServer, the online tool screens patients and recommends a visit to the doctor, if necessary. The idea is to mitigate anxiety and anguish in the population.

On top of that, since March this year, Tecnopuc’s laboratory Fablab has been producing face shields, in large scale, to be donated to health care institutions. 3D printers are in operation for almost 24 hours a day. In a symbolic act, face shield number 10,000 has been delivered to Santa Casa de Rio Grande.

THE TASK FORCE IN NUMBERS


12 working groups consisting of researchers, professors, students and professionals from several areas. Capacity of production of up to 350 Covid-19 testing samples per day.

MORE AWARENESS AND CONTINUOUS INITIATIVES

For Costa da Costa, the world came together in the fight against the pandemic and society benefited greatly from the scientific knowledge produced at universities and research institutes. “Part of the population became fully aware of the importance of research. People had the chance to watch the progress in the development of a vaccine, which, in the past, would take 10 years to be produced, but now can be delivered in one or two years. It also aroused greater financial interest not only from development agencies, but from private companies”, he ponders.

In the case of PUCRS, one of the greatest legacies that will remain is the working groups. They will not be discontinued, but will focus on life after the pandemic. “More work will be done once patients heal from Covid-19 infections. We will have a pre-assembled structure in operation, comprising statistical models and forecasts. Data will be available, if something of this magnitude happens again”, Lahm adds.
It was almost midnight and Dandara*, whose real name has been concealed, was about to go to sleep. As she was lying in her bed, although she was tired after spending a few minutes on her cell phone, she tried to sleep and ... well, she could not get her eyes shut. This is very common, and is usually associated with the effects of using electronic devices. Although studies have shown that using cell phones in excess can cause damage to posture (according to the New York Spine and Rehab Medicine), difficulty sleeping (Haifa University, in Israel), vision problems (Seoul University, in South Korea), among many other issues, some investigations have shown that the controlled use of smartphones can even generate mental wellness.

This is what the unprecedented work done by Amanda Borges Fortes, a student in the Graduate Program in Psychology of PUCRS, has shown. “The amount of time people spend on their cell phones is not necessarily harmful to mental health, but how they spend it is,” she explains. The claims that “people don’t talk to each other anymore” or “everyone exposes themselves way too much” are not always true. The theoretical model developed by Fortes does not say that the use of smartphones and technologies is harmless. However, when looking at the context, people’s emotions play a much more important role in this scenario, as well as the problems that may occur because of too much use or improper use of smartphones rather than the device itself.
Questions raised her awareness to the fact that she, in fact, was a scientist. “I got into the Pharmacy program and was fascinated by the cells, molecules and treatments for diseases. After some time working with chemotherapy, a number of questions came up. These questions propelled me to study and find a more effective cure for cancer. I began a career as a researcher and got into a PhD program to study the function of ATP, which is the main molecule that provides energy to drive many processes in living cells. It also plays a role in intracellular and extracellular signaling. I also studied its involvement in the development of cancer and inflammation. I fell in love with the whole process as I had many challenges to beat. I never stopped every since”, she claims.

THE PATH TO TAKE IF YOU WANT TO BE A SCIENTIST

Fernanda claims that undergraduate students can get into the University’s Undergraduate Research program to pursue a career in research. Working with dedicated professionals and in research groups means that young students have the chance to develop the essential skills to become scientists early on. Another opportunity is the Junior category, which introduces High School students to Undergraduate Research. According to Fernanda, “the work of a researcher starts from the search for answers to real questions from the world we live in”.

ANSWERS FOR REAL LIFE QUESTIONS

She did not come to life with a calculator in her hand and does not wear a lab coat all day, either. However, she studies cells, molecules and wants to find a cure for cancer. Take the opportunity to meet Fernanda Morrone, a researcher and one among the many women scientists in Brazil.

Kids are naturally curious and, at some point, become very inquisitive. As they grow into adult life, some people conform to existence. Others, on the other hand, keep on questioning things. Fernanda Bueno Morrone, who now holds the position of Dean of Research at the Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies (PROPESQ), claims that, since she was little, she had many questions she did not have the answer for. I used to enjoy playing and studying with a microscope to try to find the answers to my questions. Such questions raised her awareness to the fact that she, in fact, was a scientist.

“Exploring the impact of the research developed at PUCRS in our everyday life is one of the goals of the playlist Teorizando. It is available on PUCRS’ YouTube channel, and its name has been used in a new editorial for PUCRS’ Magazine. The idea is to address science and technology topics in a relaxed and accessible way, by showing the importance of these areas in people’s everyday lives, based on relevant studies developed at the University.”

PHOTO: BRUNO TODESCHINI
Are women the future of science?

An unprecedented survey mapped the 250 most influential women researchers in Brazil, five of them are at PUCRS

BY FABIANA MIRANDA

Gratitude, passion, happiness, motivation, joy, honor. These words represent how five women who do research at PUCRS felt when they learned that they were recognized by the Open Box da Ciência, an initiative spearheaded by Gênero e Número, which aims to give visibility to women scientists in the national scenario.

We talked to them to find out about their perceptions of women in the scientific production in Brazil, the most striking changes that have occurred in recent years, the things that still need to be improved and the perspectives for women in leadership positions in the coming years. Check out some parts of the interviews.

“Women outnumber other genders in some specific areas, such as biomedical sciences, but strategies that reinforce our presence in technology-related areas are still needed. Certainly, over time, there will be more women holding these positions. This will reinforce the idea that different leadership profiles are positive for organizations “.

Carla Bonan, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies and School of Health and Life Sciences professor.

“The role of women in different areas is increasing, but there are still obstacles to beat. One of them is that many of us have second jobs and may still have to take care of the family and kids. One of the positive changes that we have seen was the possibility to include the period spent on maternity leave in the Lattes’ curriculum so that the decrease in academic production for that period is not negatively evaluated.

Patrícia Krieger Grossi, School of Humanities professor.
“Some editorials in major journals, such as Science and Nature, have discussions on such inequalities in the academia. No, this is not a problem that is exclusive of Brazil, but, yes, we should have initiated these discussions a long time ago”.

Maria Martha Campos, School of Health and Life Sciences professor.

“A study published by Elsevier* has shown that, in Brazil, from 1996 to 2000, 38% of Brazilian researchers were women, and from 2011 to 2015, this number grew to 49%. On the other hand, men publish more as first and last authors and their publications are more cited than those that are authored by women”.

Iná da Silva dos Santos, School of Medicine professor.

“It is very difficult to accept women as a subject of law in Brazil. Therefore, some minimum conditions are still too small, especially with regard to those who lack funding and incentives to carry on. It is even harder for African Brazilian women, who are stigmatized for their race”.

Gabrielle Bezerra Sales Sarlet, Law School professor.

“The role of women in different areas is increasing, but there are still obstacles to beat. One of them is that many of us have second jobs and may still have to take care of the family and kids.”

PATRICIA KRIEGER GROSSI, SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES PROFESSOR

1 TRANSLATOR’S NOTE: The Lattes Platform is an integrated database equipped with a web-based query interface, which is run by the federal government of Brazil to manage information on science, technology, and innovation related to individual researches and institutions in the country. It is mandatory for all researchers and institutions to keep their records up to date, as the platform is used to obtain information on individual researchers and conduct performance evaluations.
In times of crises, please learn.
THE PANDEMIC HAS INTENSIFIED THE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN TEACHING AND MADE THE TEACHER / STUDENT RELATIONSHIP EVEN MORE COMPLEX, THUS BRINGING NEW MEANINGS TO THE TEACHING-LEARNING PROCESSES

BY FABIANA MIRANDA AND DANIEL QUADROS

Zzz, zzz... The cell phone vibrates and the screen goes on. It could be a notification or message from any of the many fun apps available out there, but it was the notification of a new activity published in the class’ Facebook group. As the class logs on Moodle, PUCRS’ Virtual Learning Environment (AVA), it has access to the link to join the conversation with the invited artist for the discussions of the day. The bell rings: it is one of the classmates bringing the materials that will be used to conduct practical activities at home during the week. Welcome to the new way of teaching and learning; welcome to the multi-platform classroom.
A few months ago, adapting to remote classes seemed to be a medium, long-term challenge for some organizations. Some people were even a bit too resistant to the technological model proposed by last decades’ advances. But what should we expect from a new future taking shape during such an unprecedented pandemic in recent history? Check out some of the movements and trends that show that teaching in a post-pandemic world will probably not be as it was before.

NEITHER ONLINE NOR FACE-TO-FACE: HYBRID

According to Dr. Lucia Giraffa, School of Technology professor and leader of the Interdisciplinary Research Group on Digital Education, there is a trend pointing to hybrid teaching. This model embraces resources, practices and pedagogical actions that include aspects that would be addressed both in face-to-face and remote classes. “This will be highlighted in the post-pandemic context (whenever it is to happen). We will come...
One of the cofounders of USP’s Escola do Futuro, Prof. José Moran, understands that in Education 4.0, teachers plan a lesson for an unpredictable world. Problems and situations in this world will not be solved within the classroom. Everyone may learn from one another in different settings.

out of that situation different from how we used to be, and so will the students. Once we were forced to adapt, we will now have to adjust to reality, with more experienced teachers, revised practices and established institutional guidelines.”

The changes resulting from the pandemic in the teaching and learning processes should speed up the consolidation of what has been called Education 4.0. This is what Prof. Dr. Alexandre Anselmo Guilherme, affiliated to the Graduate Program in Education, believes. The way he sees it, the atypical situation we are going through has maximized the benefits this model can provide and given us the opportunity to develop the necessary skills to apply them. “I believe that the adaptation and use of new digital solutions, methodologies and teaching procedures that are more active
and innovative, gets students and teachers to develop skills. These skills will get them to interact and behave more actively and autonomously”.

The hybrid model has been tried in some areas whose activities resumed in the middle of the semester. This is the case of the School of Medicine whose internships include face-to-face practicum work and remote teaching. According to School of Medicine professor, Dr. Leonardo Kroth, who is also a medical doctor at PUCRS – São Lucas Hospital (HSL), some of the main outcomes were the better integration of face-to-face activities with remote activities and the continuation of case discussions, research and theoretical materials.

A student was asked by their professor how the group was feeling about the experience: “Although we don’t have to expose ourselves out there every day, the new model has become very efficient,” he said. Other responses revealed that students had more time to study, the group was more actively involved, classmates collaborated more and faculty and residents encouraged students more.
MORE ACTIVE AND AUTONOMOUS STUDENTS

The future of teaching is a reality in the present. Many of the things that we learned during the pandemic, especially as a result of social distancing, tend to transform the ways to learn and teach. That is how Mechanical Engineering major Anna Beatriz Martins sees it: “Interdisciplinarity, objectivity and assertiveness in teaching will certainly be fundamental. On the other hand, students should be even more curious and disciplined”, she says.

To André Silveira da Silva’s mind, despite the technological advances, remote teaching reinforced the relevance of teachers: “what I expect from the teacher of the future is the ability to deal with the students’ wishes and difficulties, because no technology in the world will replace creative and passionate teaching for teaching and people”.

Leadership and autonomy were some of the skills required for those who had to have remote classes. Raquel Wainstein, a Nutrition major, believes that this is an important advancement for the academic career, regardless of the teaching platform used. “The pandemic has come to show us our ability to reinvent ourselves and how we can draw positive lessons from adverse times.

When professors are qualified and students are interested, no obstacle will be in the way of success”.

TECHNOLOGY IS A MEANS, NOT AN END

The coordinator of Online Undergraduate Programs, Dr. Debora Conforto, emphasizes that the pedagogical and technological model developed at PUCRS is centered on students, but she values the academic quality of the faculty. “Technology is always a means, not and end. What gives meaning to it is the mediation, the professor. Learning is the driving force of our model, it is what faculty and students are looking for. We want to offer interactive digital content and a variety of mediation strategies for our students to play a leading role, be active. That is essential “, she highlights.

“TECHNOLOGY IS ALWAYS A MEANS, NOT AN END. WHAT GIVES MEANING TO IT IS THE MEDIATION, THE PROFESSOR.

DEBORA CONFORTO, COORDINATOR OF ONLINE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS
As teachers are the ones who connect the environment to the students, Lucia Giraffa describes the “teacher of the future” as a curator of information, who incorporates digital technologies as inherent resources of the teaching expertise. “They would be agents who organize, select and keep track of their students’ learning in a personalized way”.

TEACHING BEYOND BORDERS
One of the historical gains of the technological revolution is the breaking of borders and geographical barriers. It is clear to see the way remote education has set no limits for the classroom, thus increasing the scope of internationalization and giving new meaning to the notions of mobility in education. For School of Health and Life Sciences professor, and Dean of Graduate Studies, Dr. Christian Kristensen, the expansion of internationalization is one of the main progresses that were observed during this period. “I believe that online teaching allows us to expand our opportunities for cooperation. The internationalization of our graduate students and faculty is clearly no longer anchored in mobility alone, in mutual exchanges”, he says.

Fostering international experiences is one of the highlights of remote teaching as adopted by the University. “Classes have also become great opportunities for exchanges without any spatial or territorial limitations. In the same morning, we had a conversation with a writer who was in Portugal, another who was in Maputo and a female writer who was in Recife”, Ricardo Barberena, School of Humanities professor, says.

THE REALITY OF STUDENTS IS THE NEW CLASSROOM
To ensure that Gastronomy students have practicum work in their homes, two alternatives were in place: the Drive-thru of ingredients and the Delivery of Gastronomy. A structure has been assembled to give students the necessary inputs to follow the classes. Additionally, the traditional restaurant that is organized by last-year students at the end of the program, has been adapted for a delivery system.
THE URGE FOR A NEW BEGINNING

In Higher Education, the consequences of the pandemic called for dynamic, creative and rapid solutions. The impossibility of predicting the evolution of the disease itself, combined with the economic crisis, required agility and alternative paths. For the President of PUCRS, Dr. Evilázio Teixeira, the consequences of the pandemic cannot be dissociated from the moment we were going through before the crisis. “The challenges we had to face became bigger and more intense. The pandemic only brought about changes that would happen eventually”, he highlights.

After we pass the most critical moment, educational institutions will be required “reimagine” their operation, since the predictions we had for some years ahead became a reality in the present. In the President’s own words: “planning for this ‘new future’ is something that is significantly different and more challenging than planning for that ‘old future’. It is a new beginning that requires patience, attitude and hope”. 

“PLANNING FOR THIS ‘NEW FUTURE’ IS SOMETHING THAT IS SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT AND MORE CHALLENGING THAN PLANNING FOR THAT ‘OLD FUTURE’. IT IS A NEW BEGINNING THAT REQUIRED PATIENCE, ATTITUDE AND HOPE”

EVILÁZIO TEIXEIRA, PRESIDENT OF PUCRS
The Covid-19 pandemic affected the plans of students from around the world who dreamed of doing a study abroad program. In a quick response to the global scenario, PUCRS has launched the Virtual Mobility Program (PMV) as an alternative for those who want to add this international component to their training, without having to leave their home countries.

Application for two programs for undergraduate and graduate students began in June. The eMOVIES and the Americarum Mobilitas Program allow students to sign up for courses delivered by universities overseas and international students to sign up for PUCRS’ courses.
TIME FOR REINVENTION

The Executive Coordinator of the Office for International Cooperation, Mrs. Carla Cassol, believes that virtual mobility programs are immediate needs that have arisen in the middle of a pandemic. However, she also believes that they bring an opportunity for the democratization of internationalization. “Virtual mobility has become an action of internationalization that complements the many others that exist”.

And she goes on to say: “the internationalization of universities is the process of introducing an international dimension in the institutional culture and strategy, through teaching, research and extension. Its main outcome is to produce professionals equipped with developed intercultural skills and an open worldview.”

Carlos Alberto Carvajal, also known as Br. Beto, who is working on his PhD in the Graduate Program in Education, views that virtual programs will become a certainty for the education of the future. “Some people see the Covid-19 pandemic as an ‘accelerator of futures’ and for education, it has undoubtedly brought about radical changes.” This has become an opportunity for him to join a distance education class from UNIMINUTO, in Colombia, his home country.

Carla adds that the pandemic propelled internationalization to reinvent itself. “People will be traveling again. But the internationalization of Higher Education in Brazil will be forever changed. It will be much better”, she adds.

EXPECTATIONS BEYOND BORDERS

67 other international students, both undergraduate and graduate, have joined the program this semester. Some students, who are enrolled in courses in different areas, are joining PUCRS’ mobility program for the second time. One of them is Karla Perez, who has applied for a face-to-face mobility program and has now joined the virtual one.

“I think it is a good opportunity to experience the exchange in a different way, outside of my comfort zone”.

The courses on Portuguese International Students received a large number of applications this semester, from students from 6 countries.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE AT HOME

In 2020/2, 38 students of PUCRS - from both undergraduate and graduate programs - registered for online courses from universities abroad. At the end of the semester, the credits can be transferred to the curriculum of their program at PUCRS.

In her first mobility experience, Julie Gabriele da Silva, a Physical Education major, found in virtual mobility the perfect opportunity to learn more, find out about new cultures and practice an additional language. As for Psychology major Jéssica Sulzbach Rodrigues, the motivation arose from the desire to learn about how her profession and studies in the area of Psychology are developed in Colombia, the host country of the universities she chose to apply this semester.

For Law School student Bianca Pata Flores, virtual mobility complements the face-to-face experience she had in 2017. After spending two semesters at Sciences Po Aix-en-Provence in France, Bianca will now take courses in Mexico and Colombia.
In this institution, we develop internationally-recognized research with an eye to producing innovative results that generate social impact. We are firmly and actively committed to promoting science for the development of society, as we reflect upon and work on the essential issues that are needed to improve the quality of life and social justice. We are going down in history and, at the same time, paving the way for the future. And we are very proud of that.

- Best graduate programs in Brazil (according to Capes 2017 evaluation), among the programs in the main Latin American universities;
- 223 graduate programs;
- More than 11,000 students having completed Master's degrees and almost 4,000 students having completed PhDs;
- 70% of students on scholarships;
- International experiences through PUCRS-PrInt;
- 500 active research structures;
- Over 2,100 research projects in progress.
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Culture

PHOTO CESAR ALVES/TV GLOBO
Riding on a truck full of mangoes, for three days and three nights, a teenager traveled down dirt roads in pursuit of his dreams. At the age of fifteen, the son of a cowboy and a circus performer, the young man, born in Nossa Senhora da Purificação do Desemboque e Sagrado Sacramento, arrived alone in São Paulo. With no job in sight, Ariclenes began to help unload freight in the market in exchange for the first coins that would get him something to eat. He still needed a place to sleep, though.

As he ran out of options, he accepted the invitation to visit a cabaret where he would end up staying for some time, as he had unexpected love affair with a ballerina.
As half of his heart was beating for the countryside, whereas the other half was beating for the big city, the young man began looking for a job that could bridge the gap between different worlds. In his memory, he carried the image of his father putting on his suit to listen to the news on the radio at home. That technology would break the isolation of the city of Desemboque. In the big city, the young man wanted to be heard by his father through the radio waves. Determined and fearless, he did an interview on Rádio Tupi. With his thick Minas Gerais accent, he was humiliated in the interview for the tone of his voice. All he got left to do was to imitate animal sounds – he would reproduce pigs, dogs and cows in morning shows. However, it did not take long for an opportunity to be an actor on the radio to come up. Then, Ariclenes Venâncio Martins became Lima Duarte.

In the historic first TV Tupi broadcast, in 1950, Lima Duarte was with Assis Chateaubriand, Lolita Rodrigues and Hebe Camargo, among others. In 1951, he was in the cast of *Sua vida me pertence*, a soap opera in which a handsome man, Walter Forster, kissed the girl, Vida Alves, for the first time on video. On TV Vanguarda (1952), he played characters written by authors such as Dostoievsky, Gorki, Dumas, Balzac, O’Neill, Tennessee Williams, Bernard Shaw, Ibsen, Gogol, and Tchekhov. He played some foundational roles in the history of drama, such as Fausto, by Goethe, and Iago, Hamlet and Macduff, by Shakespeare.

Among the countless Brazilian characters, he tended to play rural man from the Northeast of the country as well as jagunços1 and countrysiders from Minas Gerais. Amid this scenario, his passion for João Guimarães Rosa arouses. It is impossible not to mention his outstanding performance as Augusto Matraga in 1958. His brilliant performance as a director in *Beto Rockfeller*, on Tupi, in 1968, gave him a naturalistic tone, with colloquial dialogues and everyday situations with which the audience could identify. Hired by Globo TV, he is now a distinguished actor who has played a variety of impressive roles.

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1 TRAVELER’S NOTE: In Brazil, a jagunço is a type of bodyguard that is hired by farmers to protect the land and their employer. The term may also make reference to any kind of rural bandits or outlaws. Jagunços can typically be found in the Northeast of Brazil.
honors me and makes me happy is the fact that I am a rural man who has become an actor and am now widely acclaimed in the country. And all my efforts have been channeled to serving my people, to make them proud and to say, in every character I play: “Look! I am just like you!” Although I have played Hamlet, Padre Antônio Vieira, Macbeth, Otelo... We all come from the same background!”. But you are wrong if you think Lima Duarte is only on television.

At Teatro de Arena de São Paulo, he was for ten years, from 1961 to 1971, in plays such as O Tartufo, by Molière and Arena Contra Zumbi, by Gianfrancesco Guarnieri and Augusto Boal. In the cinema, Lima has a solid career, with outstanding characters such as the hateful sergeant in Sargento Getúlio (1983).

In 2020, Brazilian television celebrates its 70th anniversary. Lima Duarte has become a pioneering figure of this communication channel that changed contemporary society. To talk about Lima Duarte is to talk about Brazilian TV, about Brazilian theater, about Brazilian cinema, about Brazilian culture. With Lima Duarte, brasilianism is everywhere. Including in our academic community. Congratulations, Lima Duarte on Mérito Cultural 2020!
At the service of life

On the front line in the battle against the pandemic, Fabiano Ramos MD, who has completed his degree at PUCRS, has an important mission in the search for the Covid-19 vaccine. In this edition, he tells us about his personal life and professional career.

BY FABIANA MIRANDA AND DANIEL QUADROS

With the white coat on his shoulder and two cell phones in his hands, in between cups of coffee, Fabiano Ramos seemed at ease to recall the motivation that got him to choose to work with infectology. “I was invited by the then-School of Medicine professor, Dr. Cândida das Neves, to join the Aderência Total, a pioneering project that involved several medical areas, to help patients who were fighting HIV. At the time, in the late 90s, I was still a medical school student, but I decided to take action as I was working with the people who were infected with the virus, and still very stigmatized. With this experience, as I saw several medical specialties joining forces, I came to understand that infectologists have to work in a multidisciplinary way”.

A native of Ijuí, at the age of 43, Fabiano does not have much time to do sports today, but he has played many “rough” soccer matches with his School of Medicine’s classmates and São Lucas Hospital (HSL) peers. And he also got into basketball, as a point guard: “that is the most suitable position for a person as tall as I am”, he said jokingly. He still keeps one of the skills he learned back in those days: “The understanding that a multidisciplinary vision is necessary in medical practice also comes from basketball, after all, a point guard knows the importance of the whole team being articulated in the court”, he highlights.
Fabiano was the first Infectology resident at São Lucas Hospital (HSL) in 2004, and now is the head of the service. He has attracted a number of journalists for interviews to demystify the coronavirus and has also worked on the front line in the battle against the Dengue fever epidemic. “As the clinical head of one of the largest studies on the vaccine in Porto Alegre, which began in 2016 and is still in progress, to my mind, the opportunity to integrate other studies into clinical research is a great challenge”.

The work of professionals like Fabiano has gained a lot of evidence and relevance in recent times. In addition to coordinating the research conducted by the Instituto Butantan, which is testing the Covid-19 vaccine at HSL, Ramos conducts and oversees the development of protocols for prevention, safety and treatment against the coronavirus. He is also a member of the Scientific Committee to Support the Fight Against COVID-19, which was assembled by the government of the state of Rio Grande do Sul. “This is such a historical moment, both for the pandemic and for the speed with which it has spread ... at no other time in history has a vaccine been produced in such a short period of time.”

**LIFE IS CONSTANT LEARNING**

A father of two kids, Fabiano shows to be attentive to the constant quest for answers, as he believes that the more experience one has, the more uncertainties arise. “I had a professor who would say: we have to be careful with people who think they know everything ... We don’t have all the answers”.

“INFECTOLOGISTS HAVE TO WORK IN A MULTIDISCIPLINARY WAY.”
As the number of coronavirus transmissions has increased, so have the impacts of the pandemic on people’s health. According to the World Health Organization - WHO - the effects of social isolation, fear of transmission and the loss of family members are maximized as people have to face uncertainties, which include loss of income and even unemployment.

In this scenario, the scientists’ efforts in trying to find answers for a number of questions have become urgent and necessary. The judicious use of research findings underlie the actions involving intervention policies – mostly concerning public health – to be taken during and after the pandemic.

The research project Stress, trauma and risk perception during and after the pandemic, coordinated by School of Medicine professor and Brain Institute of Rio Grande do Sul (BraIns) researcher, Dr. Rodrigo Grassi de Oliveira, is one of such endeavors. The study, which employs an anonymous survey, is part of a multidisciplinary task force that aims to map out and monitor the Brazilian population during and after the pandemic. So far, 17,000 people have participated.
SCIENTIFIC STUDY FOR ACTIONS DURING AND AFTER PANDEMIC

The way Grassi sees it, fear of death, and uncertainty about the future as well as social distancing can be very stressful factors, and can contribute to the onset or aggravation of mental disorders, especially anxiety and depression. The goal is to have people respond to the survey, and, if possible, replicate it in the future. At the end, participants will have access to their own answers and receive orientation on how to seek help.

If you still have not participated, please click here.

HOW IS YOUR SLEEP PATTERN DURING THE QUARANTINE?

From about 20% to 40% of people complain about having trouble sleeping or not sleeping well. This fact is commonly known as “subjective insomnia”. During the pandemic, just like stress, this has become worse. You are tired, get ready to go to bed, but have a hard time trying to shut your eyes or end up waking up several times in the middle of the night. This is the reality many people have to face during the pandemic, and which has largely affected kids. This is what the research project How is your sleep in this quarantine? shows. It is embraced by the same task force and investigates the consequences of home confinement on the sleep of adults and their children.

The study, carried out by the School of Medicine’s Graduate Program in Pediatrics and Child Health, has produced some preliminary findings, but will go on until the end of the quarantine.

Data collection began in the seventh week of the quarantine period. The focus was on the state of Rio Grande do Sul. Results have shown an increase in the prevalence of poor sleep patterns in both groups under study, but in children aged 0 - 3 years, it was twice as large. According to Prof. Dr. Magda Nunes, researcher and Vice Director of BraIns, these sleeping problems are associated with changes in routine. “Some children end up going to bed later, whereas others are not used to staying at home for so long. This is a new dynamics for everyone”, she explains. 50% of respondents answered that some of the disorders they were having included having problems falling or staying asleep.

For data collection for children and adolescents, parents answered the questions and, then, researchers studied the factors that could have influenced the changes in depth. To illustrate the first round of findings, researchers created a word cloud with the most frequent answers. Adults reported anxiety and worries as the most common concerns. Children, on the other hand, reported late-night sleeping and lack of routine. Georeferencing data will also be collected to identify the possible regional effects of home confinement. These results may also assist researchers in addressing some of the following issues: excessive daytime sleepiness; deterioration in sleep quality; and the status of these changes, which can be either permanent or temporary.
In the first months of the Covid-19 pandemic, a behavioral pattern started to be observed all over the world: the search for meditation apps. According to a study by RankMyApp, the number of downloads on Play Store in Brazil increased by 46%, and by 613% on the App Store, from February to March. In May, 61,000 apps were installed on smartphones.

One possible explanation may be the increase in anxiety and depression in many Brazilians during the implementation of social distancing measures. For Malone Rodrigues, assistant at the Pastoral and Solidarity Center, the search for meditation and wellness apps is both a movement and a consequence. “It is a movement in the sense that it speeds up our routine. It was causing depression, anxiety, burnout, among other things. On the other hand, it is a consequence in that it allows for integrative practices, such as meditation itself, to gain space, including in the media”, he observes.

For those who do not know much about it, but would like to begin, a good option is to start with attentive and silent practice. “It is the one that is the most popular in this period and can be practiced by everyone”, Rodrigues suggests.

PROJECT HELPS INCLUDE MEDITATION IN ROUTINE

The project *Trilha de Meditação*, by the Pastoral and Solidarity Center, aims to increase the number of meditation practitioners. The program consists of four individual meetings. Because of the pandemic, the sessions are being delivered online.

Before Guilherme de Araújo Silva, a Law School student, began college, he was researching the subject. “I wanted to learn more, and when I saw the project’s add on Instagram, I decided to sign up,” he adds. He says he resorted to meditation to control anxiety and claims to see the results. “The exercises also help me to stay focused”, he concludes.
Actions of the academic community offer alternatives for a better life in the present

BY FERNANDA DREIER AND ANNA VEIGA

We are going through a global emergency that transcends borders and exposes our vulnerability and dependence on one another as members of a global community. If the moment is calling for us to revisit the social contract between people and institutions, the University has shown that it can take robust actions guided by cooperation to offer agile and concerted responses to help people in their everyday lives.

A series of materials presenting studies and investigations have been made available to society. Find out some of the publications on made by PUCRS researchers and students:

1. FOR BASIC EDUCATION
   GUIA DE RECOMENDAÇÕES GERAIS PARA REABERTURA DAS ESCOLAS
   This guide includes recommendations that should be implemented by school managers in reopening schools. It calls us to reflect upon the meaning and significance that school settings need to have in the post-pandemic.

2. FOR PEOPLE AGED 60+
   CARTILHA DE ENFRENTAMENTO DO CORONAVÍRUS PARA IDOSOS (AS)
   This publication contains information about the impact of the pandemic on the lives of elderly individuals. To make it easier for readers, it has been divided by topics. Both an English version and a Spanish version have been released.

3. FOR WOMEN
   VOCÊ NÃO ESTÁ SOZINHA:
   ENFRENTANDO A VIOLÊNCIA CONTRA MULHER NO ISOLAMENTO PELA COVID-19
   This booklet, developed for women, helps readers identify signs of abuse in their relationships and includes the services that can be helpful for victims these situations.

4. FOR FAMILIES
   CARTILHA PARA CRIANÇAS: UMA HISTÓRIA EM QUADRINHOS SOBRE COMO CUIDAR DA NOSSA SAÚDE
   This cartoon book has been designed to help kids deal with social distancing and includes playful activities that can be done at home.

5. FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE WORKING FROM HOME
   BEM-ESTAR NO TRABALHO EM TEMPOS DE PANDEMIA: UM GUIA PARA PROFISSIONAIS EM HOME OFFICE
   This publication has been designed to help readers understand how people can get sick, but at the same time, seek comfort in the workplace.
Taking care of plants and books; welcoming visitors; making face shields; keeping the facilities around Campus clean and disinfected. There is a variety of actions carried out by the people who, despite the period of social isolation, still have to make their presence felt at the University. These professionals are in charge of essential activities, and in view of all the necessary precautions and security measures to be taken, still have to develop their work in person. We asked them a number of questions: How important is your job during the pandemic?

1. IN THE GARDENS...

MARCOS XAVIER GONÇALVES,
HEAD OF THE GARDENING TEAM
“We need to be there every day and take good care of it. The students and visitors who visit the University love the gardens”

2. IN CLEANING...

NINA RAGIUK,
HEAD OF THE CLEANING TEAM
“Me and my team are here to keep the environments clean and disinfected and help in the fight against Covid-19”

3. AT THE LIBRARY...

ANAMARIA FERREIRA, LIBRARIAN
“By cleaning the books, we are ensuring protection and security to staff and users and access to information for students”

4. AT THE RESEARCH CENTER...

MÁRCIA ALBERTON PERELLÓ,
LABORATORY STAFF AT THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON MOLECULAR AND FUNCTIONAL BIOLOGY (CPBMF)
“I keep the laboratory organized and provide support to researchers who are developing studies on the pandemic”
5. AT THE RECEPTION ...
GABRIELLEN FERREIRA, RECEPTIONIST
“For every student, staff or visitor coming to the University, we are taking the necessary measures to ensure precaution and protection”

6. AT THE LABORATORIES ...
EDUARDO PEREIRA, CUSTOMER SERVICE AT TECNOPUC FABLAB
“I can use my experience and passion for 3D printing to provide direct support and security for healthcare professionals”
The word solidarity comes from Latin solidum (entirety, security) or solidus (solid, whole). It is understood as the firm and persevering determination to strive for the common good. That is to say, it is for everyone’s good that we need to take responsibility for each other. At this moment, as no one has all the answers for the questions that we have in our minds, experiencing and discovering this solidarity is a way and an opportunity to become more humane. In this scenario, it is like we are taking off a blindfold which, for various reasons - social, economic and religious -, prevents us from seeing each other’s real needs.

Solidarity has become one of the greatest allies for us to face this new scenario. Volunteer groups, social projects, virtual food drive, a task force to make and give masks, collective purchases for people in risk groups, remedial lessons for public school students, distribution of meals for those who need them the most … Countless are the initiatives that are making the lives of the most vulnerable population easier to handle.

This shows us that we have widely and vividly experienced our connection with vulnerability. We are responding to this “new normal” with determination and solidarity. We have proven that we can take action, that we can change, and now it is up to us to translate all of that into something permanent to face the new realities and consequences that are ahead of us.

Our post-pandemic life cannot be a replica of what happened before. And, as for solidarity, we have some challenges to face: to take long-lasting, contextualized, continuous actions that generate impact for transformation; to make this a priority given the contexts in which we are; and, finally, to understand good practices as sources of inspiration. So, more and more, we will be a sign of hope.
WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Initiatives to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic have mobilized several areas of the University during the pandemic.

BY ANNA VEIGA

Over the past few months, the University provided the necessary support for initiatives that would help those in need and which would mitigate the impacts of the pandemic. That includes the Campanha do Agasalho – Drive Thru Solidário (Winter Clothing Campaign - Solidary Drive Thru), which collected 2,740 items including clothes, shoes and blankets. These items were delivered, along with 250 bottles of hand sanitizer, to three social organizations.

Within the scope of #JuntosPodemos, the Solidary Campaign highlighted the needs of partner NGOs in order to increase the collection of funds to buy foods and hygiene products. Another initiative to raise funds for purchasing basic staples was Somos Iguais e estamos juntos, organized by Fundação Irmão José Otão (Fijo).

In an effort to collaborate with the containment of the dissemination of Covid-19, a Mutirão Solidário (Solidary Task force) was carried out. The Pastoral and Solidarity Center donated materials for the production of masks to the São Lucas Hospital of PUCRS (HSL), as it had assembled a group of voluntary seamstresses. Overall, these professionals have made more than 12,000 thousand masks.

Again, in trying to mitigate anxiety and stress, more than 10 podcasts were produced by the Pastoral and Solidarity Center to help people meditate. These podcasts have been played more than 12,500 times. Through PUCRS’ meditation projects, more than 100 individual visits were made to students, alumni, faculty and staff.

Within the Marist Network, through project Ação Comunidades, PUCRS joined the company PareBem and put up a collection box in the parking lot to collect food and hygiene products. After that, the project took a different direction: cash was donated to buy SIM cards for Marist Social Schools students to have access to the internet.

The University also donated 90 computers to the Centro Social Marista de Porto Alegre (Cesmar). The equipment is being used by students of the Irmão Jaime Biazus Marist School.
PUCRS students promote changes with projects in several areas.

**Social Impact and Solidarity**

**NEWSLETTER BRINGS INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19**

Since April, Editorial J students have produced a newsletter that is sent to over 200 people. “Not only is it reliable, but it is also an atemporal record of the pandemic,” Fabrine Bartz, J. reporter, comments.

**PROJECT ADVANCES LEADING ROLE OF LOW INCOME YOUTH**

To foster self-knowledge, social responsibility and the development of entrepreneurial skills are the goals of Muda. João Vitor Severino, Business Administration (Innovation and Entrepreneurship) major and creator of the initiative anticipates one of the project’s goals: “In the long run, we want to reduce frustration and the development of entrepreneurial skills.”

**CAMPAIGN FOR PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE**

Activity was designed by Advertising students and shared with the Civil Police. According to Gabrielly Severino, a PUCRS alumni and project manager of the #PreenchaSeuVazio campaign, the goal is to show people that drugs are not an alternative to face adversities.

**APP ENCOURAGES KIDS TO PRACTICE THE GOOD**

Passaporte da Bondade is a child game that encourages benevolence. According to Virgilius dos Santos, a Software Engineering major who helped design the app, it is a simple, playful and educational tool.

**A LEADING ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF**

“How will we build the cities we want to live in?” was the theme of the PUCRS 2020 Maratona de Inovação, which encouraged students from all the University’s Academic Schools to think together about solutions. Check out.

**Solutions**

A LEADING ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF

Social Impact and Solidarity
In these changing times, we can see things change like we have never seen before—be them in our lives, in companies or in society. New challenges and opportunities. Many business segments are facing the challenge of having to reinvent themselves. In the business world, no transformation is stronger than Digital Transformation.

Contrary to common sense, Digital Transformation is not directly related to technology. It is about the strategies and organizational culture. It involves Digital Innovation. But, most importantly, Strategic Transformation. It involves the use of design thinking techniques, graphical network models and transdisciplinary approaches, for instance. As a result, we get strategies for organizational transformation.

From a technological point of view, once we go through these stages that are characteristic of Digital Transformation, important technology approaches will emerge. Their implementation, as the concept of Digital Platforms, will be used to support the new business models.

One of the greatest challenges involves traditional organizations, which are more conservative in terms of structure, leadership and culture. Nascent businesses come to life as digital natives. They are completely different when it comes to making a traditional organization into an organization that is prepared to take advantage of the opportunities that an increasingly digital, more connected and more networked world, has to offer.

The great challenge for these organizations is to move from analog to digital culture. It is a life-or-death challenge. Those businesses that do not transition into this path will simply lose market gradually. Ultimately, they will tend to follow the path that so many other leading organizations in their segments took in the past. Today they just simply do not exist anymore. Or will become irrelevant.
Rush to innovate:
TRENDS AND PERSPECTIVES

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic in Brazil and digital acceleration in different areas, introducing innovation needs strategy and validation

BY NATIELE DIAS AND FABIANA MIRANDA

Being aware of rapid changes is essential to give rise to important solutions for society, during and after the pandemic. These changes, according to School of Humanities professor, Dr. Emil Sobotkka, can be very pleasant in some aspects, but dramatic, or almost impossible, in others. “With regard to labor, for instance, the transition from face-to-face to remote work, in general, is strongly dependent on technical conditions. In some respects, we can see a number of advantages that we did not give the right value to, such as commuting time and costs, flexibility, etc. But the effect of this change on people and the community – who create, produce, transform, serve and entertain – is still unknown. Our observations still need to be experienced and validated in the long run”, he points out.
For PUCRS’ Superintendent for Innovation and Development, Dr. Jorge Audy, the impacts on labor relations will be more vividly felt when we have to shift from the synchronous to asynchronous mode. And he goes on to say: “this genuinely quite disruptive trend, of having to work remotely and asynchronously, combined with the hybrid work model and the new significance that is given to physical locations, needs to be massively tried and tested”.

Additionally, Audy claims that these digital transformations do not apply only to work, but also, and mainly, to teaching and learning. “Try to imagine the potential of the hybrid use of synchronous and asynchronous tools, blending face-to-face and remote modes and allowing a new range of possibilities combined with time and space, between teachers and students”.

Business School professor, and coordinator of PUCRS’ Institute for Research and Development (Idear), Dr. Naira Libermann, points out that, in actuality, digital technologies have become the genuine drivers of the dissemination of innovation. And she goes on to say that, innovations are not accepted all at once, but in stages. “It is recommended to begin implementing innovations in groups that are adept to them, and then share them with other groups”, she advises.

In addition to remote work and digital transformation, Naira mentions already-existing innovations, but which were maximized and adapted due to the pandemic. She also highlights the drivers of consumer behavior that will shape global markets over the next 10 years, according to the Mintel Global Consumer survey: wellbeing, technology, surroundings, rights, identity and value.

INNOVATIONS AND THEIR LEADING ROLE

Shopstreaming: e-commerce and live streaming put together. As a consequence, retail and services can reach consumers remotely.

Collaborative Economy and Responsible Consumption: valuing sustainable businesses and consumption of less harmful products to the environment.

Virtual Companies and Learning Networks: social connections developed online and the desire for self-improvement through platforms that connect people to professors, experts and mentors. The search for learning new skills, with emphasis on recognition and appreciation.
Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The search for knowledge and practice as the foundations for the development of projects that make a difference in society is one of the most sought-after things in the current scenario. Just like business reinvention, the Covid-19 pandemic also ignited the creation of new support models, and changes in the ways entrepreneurial skills are developed. At PUCRS, several actions have been revisited for students and professionals to continue with their engagement in the creation of solutions.

The impact of the pandemic propelled the University to take actions that helped micro and small businesses to reinvent themselves.

BY NATIELE DIAS
**JOINED EFFORTS**

The website Supera, launched in June, brings together free services for entrepreneurs. The joint efforts involving PUCRS, other private institutions and the government of the city Porto Alegre within the Pacto Alegre project have given rise to the platform.

**MAKING IDEAS INTO BUSINESSES**

Startup Garagem, a Tecnopuc’s business modeling program, has been adapted to provide virtual support to the development of initiatives in the pandemic. Dr. Melissa Streek, a former student in the School of Communications, Arts and Design - Famecos program, commends on the quality of the program: “All lectures and mentoring sessions were high-quality and relied on the engagement of all parties involved. We had specific channels for discussion and staff available to provide information to visitors and receive the deliverables. We also relied on a team that was willing to exchange ideas about the projects”, she says. In Startup Garagem, she received the support to design Appoio Digital, a tool to help people aged 60+ to use smartphones.

**INTEGRATION AND PREPARATION FOR THE JOB MARKET**

PUCRS Carreiras brought together dozens of women to discuss topics associated with career building in online meetings held at no charge every week. With two editions, the event contributed for participants to take ownership of their own resources and background, as they developed group work and connected with other women who serve as support and inspiration.

**SUPPORT TO COMPANIES THROUGH SERVICELEARNING**

Students enrolled in the course on Business Planning are advising small companies which, due to the pandemic, had to face challenges involving the revision of costs, new sources of revenue and innovative ways to operate. The initiative was proposed by the coordinator of the Institute for Research and Development (Idear), Dr. Naira Libermann, and employs the service learning methodology.

**CONNECTING TEACHING AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

By advancing an interdisciplinary and entrepreneurial attitude, Idear provides advising sessions, training programs, practicum work, lectures and workshops using active methodologies and advancing project development. The institute’s academic coordinator, Dr. Ana Cecilia Nunes, emphasizes that personal development is in line with innovation. “Entrepreneurial skills help us to make ideas into opportunities and action, and this especially applies to the current moment we are living”.

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Check out the live sessions on women entrepreneurship.
According to data published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, global warming could reach 1.5 °C from 2030 to 2052 if it continues to increase at the current speed. For School of Health and Life Sciences professor, Dr. Júlio César Bicca-Marques, we are very close to not being able to avoid the effects of climate change. “The consequences of the significant increase in the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere caused by our economic activities can now be vividly felt. If we stopped releasing these gases today, it would take the atmosphere thousands of years to return to the conditions that were observed in the pre-industrial period.”

Protecting and restoring forests and investing in science and technology are necessary actions. Anthropic actions speed up the occurrence of extreme events and have consequences for life on Earth. Anthropic actions are those that are done by man, such as deforestation. Deforestation combined with climate change creates a devastating scenario. Specialists are beginning to talk about non-restoration and savannization of the Amazon.
essential to reduce the negative impacts of this scenario”, Bicca-Marques warns.

For Nelson Fontoura, Director of PUCRS’ Institute for the Environment (IMA), the most visible consequences of climate change are the increase in the uneven precipitation distribution (with droughts and floods like we have never seen before), and the increased frequency of storms, hurricanes and fires. Fontoura also points out that these extreme events have an impact on the ecosystem and human life. “The loss of biodiversity may not be directly perceived by the population, but the associated impacts lead to shortage of water and food, disasters, loss of income and quality of life. And, most importantly, the loss of human lives, especially the most vulnerable population”, he points out.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION LABORATORIES SEEK SOLUTIONS

Congregating institutions from Latin America and Europe, the project Climate Labs: Strengthening applied research and innovation capacities in Latin-America through co-creation labs for mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change aims to build interdisciplinary laboratories to strengthen the research and innovation capacities of participating universities.

Prof. Dr. Lucas Roldan, Business School professor, and Coordinator of Climate Labs at PUCRS, points out that by mapping out the regional records, a recurring problem for the most vulnerable families was in evidence. “Climate change brings about several consequences, such as, for example, the floods caused by the increase in rainfall. This brings many problems to the population. This whole situation is aggravated by irregular garbage disposal. We are mapping out the territory in an effort to work on a pilot project in this area. We will probably be searching for solutions to the impacts of the floods and boost income for families in the islands of Porto Alegre”, Roldan comments.
In the Middle Ages, medicine was mostly practiced by clergymen. Back in those times, religious orders took the responsibility for running hospitals. Religiosity has always been closer to medicine than one might think.

Although science has moved away from the spiritual dimension in medical practice, in recent years the number of studies in this area has grown exponentially. As a natural consequence of this process, the course *Spirituality in Medical Practice* has been added to the curriculum of the School of Medicine’s Medicine program. According to Prof. Dr. Marco Antônio Pacheco, the course coordinator, the course was added to the curriculum to “formalize the actions that were done extracurricularly and develop evidence-based research in this field. The driving force to implement the course was the students, who had mobilized themselves with the creation of the Liga Acadêmica de Saúde e Espiritualidade (Academic League of Health and Spirituality), in 2018. And we, professors, were incited to participate actively”.

For Renan de Melo, a 4th year student, to bring these aspects to academic training is essential. “Spirituality is addressed in other medical specialties that deal with progressive chronic diseases. Professionals in these areas have understood the importance of
addressing spirituality in medical care as a means of bringing comfort for patients”.

“Studying the interfaces between health and spirituality has always been one of my goals in medical practice. The league’s initial activities included studies of scientific articles and introductory lectures on the basic concepts associated with the topic”, Gabriel Panitz, creator of the Academic League of Health and Spirituality, says.

According to Professor Ivan Antonello, “spirituality is connected with the human being’s search for something that makes them connect with non-tangible values, other than themselves”, he explains. Professor Lucas Spanemberg, points out that spiritual practices generally foster positive feelings and actions. “All of that has positive effects on physical and mental health and is associated with happiness. It is strongly connected to health and protects us from getting sick”, he says.

For Professor Jose Roberto Goldim, “Medicine, in trying to understand spiritual issues, as being important in people’s lives, incorporates this aspect”, he says.

ARE SPIRITUALITY AND RELIGIOSITY SYNONYMS?

Philosopher Malone Rodrigues, from PUCRS’ Pastoral and Solidarity Center, sees that it is very common for people to confuse these two things.

“Religiosity occurs when an individual believes in something superior, and follows and practices a religion. On the other hand, spirituality deals with a personal search to understand existential issues”, he explains.

Adding the course months before the world was impacted by Covid-19 pandemic shows that it was a very timely action. The health and humanitarian crisis of 2020 clearly shows the importance of understanding spirituality as an essential dimension of human life. “The world is at war with a virus and health professionals form the army that defends humanity. Being close to death always makes us reflect upon what really matters in life, what really bonds us together, the feeling of love”, Professor Marco Antônio Pacheco concludes.
Only a week after the first Covid-19 case was reported in Porto Alegre, on Mar 11, classes at PUCRS classes went entirely virtual, under the emergency remote teaching model.

The needs imposed by the pandemic have attested to our power to reinvent ourselves and take action. The University immediately engaged on several fronts to find alternatives and answers to fight Covid-19. At the same time, it implemented dramatic changes in its routines and work processes to preserve the health of its community. This timeline will show you how challenging this year was.
**Tecnopuc Fablab makes more than 1,000 face shields for donation.**

Mar 30

- Multidisciplinary task force announced.
- Release of 1st booklet to fight stress.
- HSL begins provision of counseling for staff.
- Labelo tests mechanical ventilators.
- Campaign #Juntospodemos starts.
- PUCRS researchers develop new test coronavirus exam.

Mar 31

- PUCRS representatives form the Scientific Committee for Support to the Fight Against the Covid-19 Pandemic in RS.

**PUCRS Online app featuring educational materials is released.**

Apr

- Some face-to-face services resumed on Campus.
- Gradual resumption of essential practical activities, research activities and internships.

Jun

- Beginning of online classes in the second semester.
- Mérito Cultural streamed live on the internet.
- Free course by Luiza Trajano and Leandro Karnal available to the community.

**PUCRS’ São Lucas Hospital announces clinical tests for the Covid-19 vaccine.**

Jul

- President announces academic calendar for the second semester and a number of measures to provide support to students.
- Special edition of Academic Development Seminar, with focus on online mediation, is offered.
- Access to PUCRS online programs provided at no charge.
- Open classes discuss the future of post-pandemic professions.
- 10,000th face shield made by the University is delivered.

Aug

- Community informed that classes will continue to be delivered online until the end of the year.

**Multidisciplinary task force announced.**

May

- Researchers create a platform to identify symptoms.
- Researchers create simulators to understand the impact of transmission.

Jun

- Community informed that classes will continue to be delivered online until the end of the year.
CARREIRAS EM 1 MINUTO a series of videos designed to help students in the development of their professional career by advancing a reflection on the job market and protagonism in their careers. Check it out on PUCRS’ YouTube channel.

The 21st edition of the UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FAIR, one of the most traditional events involving the academic community of PUCRS, has been held entirely remotely.

The journal DIREITOS FUNDAMENTAIS E JUSTIÇA, of PUCRS’ Graduate Program in Law, now considered to be of high impact, according to the CiteFactor report. Among the items that were taken in consideration is the number of citations from 2019 to 2020.

PUCRS ONLINE APP: application allows us to download classes and watch them offline, listen to a podcast as well as select and share materials.

LIVE DE CABECEIRA a series of interviews, promoted by the Institute of Culture, with Brazilian and international authors. Check it on PUCRS’ YouTube channel.

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STARTUP GARAGEM, a program that involves individual mentoring and advising for registered projects. It also includes sessions open to the public, which are being broadcast on PUCRS’ Youtube channel.

EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH, the new scientific publication of PUCRS, addresses innovative research in all areas of expertise in a multidisciplinary way.

PRESSREADER access to more than 2,5000 daily newspapers and more than 3,500 magazines from all over the world, at no charge. Some of these include the newspapers Folha de São Paulo and The Washington Post, and the magazines Forbes, Newsweek and Vogue.