When it comes to building nursing knowledge, researches are essential. Nursing practice is a social practice as well and due to this reason, it has been receiving benefits from other areas, which enlarges our understanding towards questions related to teaching and other practices in nursing. The articles on this magazine remind us the nurse's participation in building nursing knowledge in all levels. They bring us important reflections towards majoring, practice and care, as well as the participation of main figures of Brazilian Nursing with all their efforts to develop the profession. The political process determines the leadings of a profession, ranging from its formation to its practice. In “Nursing: tendencies and new challenges”, the author points out important and essential aspects in which we have to think and act. Here comes a time in which Nursing and all its categories cannot avoid the envolvement in political and social issues anymore. In fact, if we aim the permanence, the building of knowledge, the participation in researches in order to obtain the best care, dignity, respect and the right for health, we must have the right, the duty and the compromise of being engaged in building this political power. Then, at this moment the Nursing Project Political Movement is born whose objective is stimulate the culture for political participation among nursing workers in an intense and wide scale. This participation must be subsidized by studies and practical actions. Teaching, practice, nursing's insertion in the society, teaching models, the prominence on important personalities in the nursing profession throughout the years are essential moments of Brazilian Nursing, which we must know. This way, the articles: “Bom ensino nas enfermarias, o fator essencial na educação de enfermeiras”; “A Enfermagem e a condição feminina: figurastipo de mulheres no Estado Novo (1937-45), “A adoção do modelo anglo-americano de ensino de enfermagem na capital paulista (1938-1946); “O tempo de Rachel Haddock Lobo como diretora da EEAN (1931- 1933); e “ A criação da Escola de Enfermagem Luiza de Marillac: Estratégia para a manutenção do poder da Igreja Católica nos espaços hospitalares”, point out this historical knowledge, which is relevant for the understanding of questions related to the development and the actual moment of Brazilian Nursing. The care is the object of nursing. When it comes to practice, the reflections about taking care and nursing management are the most diversified, offering subsidies for the practice in different fields, and stimulus for behavioral changes aiming a better quality in assistance. When it comes to administrative aspects, the articles which integrate this subject bring questions related to the management of a critic care unit – “Management in the Critic Care Unit”; the subjective dimension of care in the health field – “Um ensaio teórico-filosófico sobre o desejo
the singularity of women who have breast cancer going through the chemotherapy treatment – “Acompanhando mulheres que enfrentam a quimioterapia para o câncer de mama: uma compreensão das singularidades”; the nurse's management and the transformation in the assistance practice based on human values – “The nurse's management in hospital health services: an alternative founded on human values”; and the knowledge of cardiovascular nursing, getting to know the early concepts of pediatric cardiac surgery – “O Advento da Cirurgia Cardíaca no Exterior e no Brasil: Perspectivas para o Saber da Enfermagem na área de Pediatria (1810-1956)”, and the nurse’s necessity to practice the diagnostic evaluation over patients with cardiological diseases – “Avaliação Diagnóstica de Enfermagem na comunicação interatrial”. In the teaching area, the publications which are in this volume are related to important themes which have to be part of the professional formation – “Abordando conteúdos, práticas e atitudes de alunos de graduação em enfermagem de uma universidade pública em relação à prevenção da disseminação da tuberculose” and “Noções básicas sobre hemoterapia: possibilidade de conteúdo curricular para a graduação em enfermagem”. The dissemination of the knowledge produced leads to the enlargement and the building of so many other knowledges in the nursing field. Sharing ideas, exchanging experiences stimulates and contributes for a better understanding of issues which are linked to the profession exercise, always aiming for a better assistance towards the individual, the family and the community. Then, we must know to practice.

**About the author**

Neiva Maria Picinini Santos

Doctor of Nursing. Vice-Director of EEAN/UFRJ. Associate Professor from the Nursing Methodology Department. Member of the Research Group in Education, Managing and Professional Nursing Exercise (NUPEGEPEn).