I would like to introduce myself as the new Editor-in-Chief of Cultura Homeopática by making a short analysis of its current situation and to present some innovations. I take over the journal in very favorable conditions: six years of activity, uninterrupted quarterly volumes, peer-reviewed articles, multidisciplinary scope, B-level in Qualis, the CAPES evaluation system and the possibility of being included in data bases.

Thus, why to change, when the situation is so good? Against the popular soccer maxim, it is important to change to keep on winning the game, as the context in which we play requires new definitions.

A crisis is manifest in homeopathy all through the world. Many attribute it to its distance from established science, while others interpret that it is the latter that ignores homeopathy. How to grow, then, in such a situation?

As a researcher, belonging to the university and academic community, I can affirm that there are many colleagues interested in approaching what I prefer to call the homeopathic phenomenon. Why do they not do it with some regularity? Because they are rarely supported by colleagues with a sound training in homeopathy. And I will point to two important features.

First, the research and development funding agencies cannot be blamed for our difficulties in research. Such agencies may actually facilitate or hinder the development of a given field, but they cannot prevent others to emerge, as this is the task of the researchers. Was not this so, not even formal science could have evolved.

The other feature is the training of homeopaths. There are differences between the art and the science of healing. The art is widely practiced in private offices and public health facilities. But the practice of science requires other kinds of thinking, biases and methods, and the traditional homeopath is not trained in them. Thus, a part of the scientific community is open to research the homeopathic phenomenon, but it lacks accurate information on it.

My personal experience with the homeopathic community showed me that many do want to contribute to research. As they experience the homeopathic phenomenon on a daily basis, their perception, although particular, is very important. But it would not be desirable that they would trade offices and pharmacies for the laboratory.

Thus, on the one hand there is a diversity in the knowledge obtained in a practice of more than 200 years and, on the other, well established scientific methods, that may give support to the homeopathic knowledge.

When we approach the conflict homeopathy vs science, it is frequent to restrict ourselves to the therapeutic use of homeopathy on hu-
Assim temos, por um lado, uma diversidade de conhecimentos, extraídos da prática de mais de 200 anos e, por outro, métodos científicos bem estabelecidos, que poderiam dar suporte ao conhecimento homeopático.

Mas quando tratamos a questão homeopatia-ciência formal, muitas vezes limitamo-nos ao uso terapêutico em humanos, afinal, é assim que o fenômeno homeopático vem manifestando-se há mais de 200 anos.

No entanto, observa-se que nos últimos anos novas frentes de aplicação da homeopatia têm sido trabalhadas e vemos o fenômeno homeopático manifestando-se nas áreas básicas, aplicadas e tecnológicas, além da clínica tradicional. As pesquisas básicas envolvem trabalhos em física, química e biologia, buscando entender que alterações estruturais ou funcionais aparecem em decorrência do processo de dinamização. Nas pesquisas aplicadas, temos a veterinária e agronomia, e tudo isso leva ao desenvolvimento tecnológico de novos produtos, métodos e procedimentos.

Considerando que o fenômeno homeopático tem caráter transdisciplinar, a subdivisão apresentada anteriormente pode ser didática, mas é muito limitada. São áreas muito diferentes, mas com alguns pontos em comum: tecnicamente, o princípio de similitude; efetivamente, o desejo em compreender um fenômeno que se mostra cada vez mais importante para a humanidade.

Assim, a ciência homeopática parece ser muito mais ampla e complexa do que imaginamos. E parte das comunidades científicas e homeopáticas mostra-se disposta a interagir. Nesse contexto é que incluímos a missão da revista Cultura Homeopática. Nosso objetivo é servir como suporte para a divulgação de pesquisas e opiniões bem fundamentadas, tendo o compromisso com a qualidade do conhecimento.

Obviamente, isto não é uma tarefa fácil para os editores, consultores, autores e leitores. Mas é um esforço que vale a pena ser feito, para colocar o fenômeno homeopático e o princípio de similitude no seu devido lugar dentro da cultura do século XXI. Nesse sentido, todos são convidados a colaborar, pois a diversidade é fundamental para a estabilidade de um sistema complexo.

Este volume de Cultura Homeopática é uma edição bilingue e contém alguns artigos de autores estrangeiros, apontando para a tendência à internacionalização da revista. Em especial, firmamos um convênio com a Revista Romana de Homeopatie (Romênia), num modelo que deve ser expandido a outros países. Estamos em contato com os organizadores de vários eventos na área, visando a publicação de trabalhos selecionados. Já iniciamos o processo para a indexação em bases de dados e estamos estudando a viabilização da revista em formato eletrônico.

Enfim, estamos em transição para uma nova cultura homeopática, e a revista Cultura Homeopática tem um papel importante a cumprir.

man beings, as it is the privileged way in which the homeopathic phenomenon has been manifested for more than 200 years.

Nevertheless, in recent years new fields of application have been developing and we may see the homeopathic phenomenon manifest in basic, applied and technological research, besides its traditional clinical scope. Basic research involves work in physics, chemistry and biology, seeking to understand what structural or functional changes appear as a consequence of the process of dynamization. Applied research can be detected in veterinary and agronomy, and all this leads to the technological development of new products, methods and procedures.

As the homeopathic phenomenon has a transdisciplinary character, the subdivision above, although didactic, is highly restricted. In spite of the differences among these fields, they have some common points: technically, the principle of similitude; in practice, the aspiration to understand a phenomenon which is proven to be increasingly important to humankind.

Thus, homeopathic science seems to be more wide-scaled and complex than we imagine. And a part of the scientific and homeopathic communities is open to interaction. This is the context in which we define the mission of Cultura Homeopática. Our aim is to serve as vehicle for the diffusion of soundly grounded research and opinions, with a commitment to the quality of knowledge.

Certainly, this is no easy task for neither editors, consultants, authors nor readers. Yet, the effort is deserving, in order to put the homeopathic phenomenon and the principle of similarity in their rightful place within the 21st century culture. In this sense, we make a wide call for collaboration, as diversity is essential in the stability of a complex system.

The present volume of Cultura Homeopática is a bilingual edition and contains some articles by foreign authors. Both facts signal the international orientation of the journal. More particularly, an agreement of cooperation has been signed with Revista Romana de Homeopatie, Romania, in a model that will be extended to other countries. Active contacts have been established with the organizers of several meetings in the area in order to publish selected works. We have initiated the procedures for inclusion in data bases and are studying models for online expression.

Shortly, we are in the transition to a new homeopathic culture, and Cultura Homeopática has an important role to fulfill in it.

https://doi.org/10.51910/ijhdr.v6i20.20