Editorial

Back to the future

Carlos Renato Zacharias

Editor-in-Chief, International Journal of High Dilution Research - IJHDR

Can you foresee the future? Certainly, your answer will be "No!" Everybody – but for some esoterisms - knows that the future is not deterministic, therefore, it cannot be predicted.

However, this does not mean that the future is a blank page: past and present trends help to shape it. Policy-makers, indeed, can define tendencies which will be actualized by their agents. The same applies in science. Scientists create new possibilities and offer tools to shape the future. Scientists not only seed the future, but actively change it in many regards: they challenge prevailing notions, truths and patterns, not aiming at utopias but at producing knowledge and technology. In a way, it can be said that scientists live as if the future was now. How can this be understood?

We can travel in space but not in time, not even after science proposed a space-time model of reality. Besides a possible psychiatric state, to live in the future as if it was now involves a form of logic inconsistent to the common sense. However, research is an activity that precisely challenges the common sense! It requires keeping the past alive without getting stuck in it; to act in the present without being restricted by it; to live the future as if time did not make any sense. Indeed, some even complaint that the future arrives too late! Research challenges minds, boundaries, truths and our own selves. So, let us leave aside for a short while all physical constraints and let our minds be free to challenge and recreate time.

When living in the future, present actions become clearer and make more sense. We may become aware of where we come from and plan where we are going to. We may not know how the future will be, but we do know that it will depend largely on what was done in the past and is being done in the present. In this context, to revise the past is paramount: to look for things seemingly mysterious that then were hidden or not fully revealed. This exercise helps us become sharper to deal with current problems and in this way, to rewrite the future itself, by adding new tendencies and opening new possibilities.

Next year supplies a most favorable occasion to travel in time. 2010 will challenge the community of High Dilution Research to reconsider our future, by deeply delving into 200 years of history signalized by the initial publication of Hahnemann's *Organon*. What mysteries are still hidden in it? What has changed? What must be kept, what must be updated, what must be discarded?

Yes, 2010 will be a singular year, when the past will come back to the present to rewrite the future of the Science of High Dilutions. Hahnemann's *Organon* is not a doctrinaire work, but an ongoing challenge to all involved in one way or another with HDs. For this reason, although some might prefer to celebrate this anniversary as a collector does with rare works of art, destined to contemplation and admiration, IJHDR invites all to share in a path of critical analysis leading to the future, to rewrite it, by defining new trends and raising new subjects for research and discussion.

This is the challenge IJHDR is launching for 2010: to rewrite the future of HD from a thorough understanding and revision of the *Organon*. For the Special Issue to be published in June, IJHDR will consider submissions presenting critical analyses of subjects related to 200 years of Homeopathy and the Science of High Dilutions in order to reformulate its future agenda.

One may passively wait for the future to come, but one can also help to shape it through decision and action. *Carpe diem* might be a sound existential option, but those who adopt it must be aware that at the same time others are deeply involved in changing the future, the very same future all of us will live in. For this reason, the crucial point is not to be able to foresee the future but to ponder on what kind of future we are building for us.

So, welcome back to the future.

How to cite this article: Zacharias CR. Back to the Future [editorial]. Int J High Dilution Res [online]. 2009 [cited YYYY Month dd]; 8(27): 40-40. Available from: http://www.feg.unesp.br/~ojs/index.php/ijhdr/article/view/338/385.

https://doi.org/10.51910/ijhdr.v8i27.338