

Those Happy Years

Aquellos años felices

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At the end of the 1990s, the Argentine Society of Cardiology decided to revamp the journal and invited Raúl Oliveri to lead this transformation. After a year under his leadership, I was invited to join the Editorial Board. Under his management, great changes were made in many aspects. At that time, authors were asked to submit their work on paper or diskettes, but the publisher in charge rewrote the entire magazine and threw out the electronic support!! The secretarial work was carried out by Carmen Sarriá, who taught us the various political aspects of the editorial management, and was complemented by Patricia López Dowling, with a level of excellence. Then, under the leadership of Hernán Doval, a new aesthetic and a commitment to opinion editorials took shape. Over the years, an Editorial Board was formed with Jorge Trainini, Jorge Lowenstein, Raúl Borracci, Jorge Thierer, and Horacio Pomés Iparraguirre, a remarkable group, and each meeting included an exchange on current intellectual issues, from chaos theory to art aesthetics. Let me tell you a little anecdote. Together with Hernán, we had published an article which had a p-value of 0.048, which was significant. We received a letter from Raul Borracci, a cardiovascular surgeon with a postgraduate training in biostatistics, with an elegant critique and a new calculation that brought the p-value to 0.051, which was not significant. We responded to him with an article that we still use for our research course, *The illusion of significant p*, commenting that the difference in probability between our statement and his was 3 in 1000, i.e., it either met the religious rule of significance or did not, but in terms of truth-error it was irrelevant. It was clear to us that Raul had a fine mind and critical vocation, so we invited him to join the journal, of which he became the Editor and contributed to on several occasions. Under Hernán's leadership, we started the so far epic and unsuccessful journey for being included in the PubMed. We studied the subject in detail and took successive

steps: inclusion of the journal in other international indexes (Scielo, Embase, Scopus), full publication in Spanish and English, electronic format, addition of foreign colleagues to the Editorial Board, and consultation with companies. I started to participate in the SAC in 1983 in the Council of Cardiovascular Urgencies, and I developed several tasks in different areas, such as the creation of the Research Committee, but my great dream was to become the Director of the Journal, which I effectively exercised between 2009 and 2012. It was an enjoyable time, with a lot of editorial and creative work, and we developed different strategies to improve the flow of original research, such as thematic issues by invitation and others. We even created a blog to share stories and experiences of SAC members. The spirit of the group has always been one of cooperation with all authors to improve their work when necessary. Sometimes I almost completely rewrote some papers that had interesting data but were not publishable, with long explanations to the authors who accepted them. I undertook to write the bimonthly editorials according to tradition, which allowed me to delve into very different subjects. For example, I wrote an article on metaphors for thinking about medicine, which I had reviewed by Professor Guiomar Capuscio, a Head Professor with a PhD in Medicine, and another on evolutionary medicine, a journey into evolutionary biological thought, always enriched by the debates in the committee. Several of these articles were compiled in two books that were later published by El Zorzal and were very well received. In 2012, I was offered a political career, vice-president and president of the SAC, which was neither a personal ambition nor a dream, and which turned out to be a very complex experience for which I was not properly prepared. I remember those years at the Journal with great affection and nostalgia, and I remain committed to collaborate in the challenges of today's new world of networks and liquid thinking.

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