

Dentistry students' scientific societies: a driving force for research.

Las sociedades científicas de estudiantes de odontología:
una fuerza motriz para la investigación.

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Student scientific societies in health fields are an important tool since they allow for students with interest towards research to network in an attractive way, through constant updating and training.^{1,2}

The relevance of a scientific society depends on establishing clear objectives where the interrelation of social integration and the development of important common objectives are considered without forfeiting the principal idea of promoting the development, growth and continuity of these groups.³ The objectives of the group must be oriented towards achieving long-term results, otherwise the original direction may be lost, and also the results obtained as a group must generate a real transformation.^{3,4}

Sincere commitment must be a fundamental characteristic for membership, because the promotion and development of research does not only seeks the generation of new scientific knowledge but also requires a constant and focused effort.^{4,5}

Universities should host and actively promote student scientific societies as they constitute a form of improvement and support those future professionals in dentistry who have a spirit of research.⁵ Finally, we suggest to break the vertical relationship between the teacher and the student that generates a lot of apathy and does generate the feeling of assurance that is needed to sincerely attract students with a desire to conduct research, thus not allowing for developing the responsibility to improve and obtain tangible research products.⁶

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