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Doctora Honoris Causa

Ilona Kickbusch

Universitat
de Girona



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Parlaments de la cerimònia d'investidura llegits
el dia 30 de juny de 2015 a l'Aula Magna Modest Prats de la UdG

Girona, juny de 2015

Universitat
de Girona

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Acord de Consell de Govern de la Universitat de Girona en la sessió ordinària núm. 4/2014, del dia 29 de maig de 2014

«El Consell de Govern, en la sessió ordinària número 4/2014, de 29 de maig de 2014, va adoptar per unanimitat, l'acord que, transcrit literalment, diu:

Concessió del títol de Doctora Honoris Causa de la Universitat de Girona a la Dra. Ilona Kickbusch, d'acord amb la proposta presentada per la Facultat d'Infermeria.»



PRESENTACIÓ DE LA DRA. ILONA KICKBUSCH A CÀRREC DE LA DRA. DOLORS JUVINYÀ CANAL





*Rector Magnífic de la Universitat de Girona;
autoritats acadèmiques, polítiques i civils;
companyes i companys de la comunitat universitària,
estimada doctora Ilona Kickbusch,
senyores i senyors,*

És per a mi un honor poder elogiar els mèrits de la Dra. Kickbusch en aquest solemne acte acadèmic.

La doctora Ilona Kickbusch és una persona reconeguda internacionalment com una de les màximes representants de la promoció de la salut, pel treball que ha fet des de l'any 1986, des de la Conferència Internacional d'Ottawa (Canadà), sota el lideratge de l'Organització Mundial de la Salut, amb l'impuls i la convicció que la caracteritzen. En aquella conferència es va adoptar un nou marc conceptual de promoció de la salut, reconeixent que la promoció de la salut constitueix un procés polític i social global que, a més de les accions orientades a enfortir les habilitats i capacitats de les persones, també incorpora accions dirigides a modificar les condicions socials, ambientals i econòmiques amb el fi de mitigar l'impacte d'aquestes condicions en la salut en les persones. Fou en aquesta primera conferència que la promoció de la salut va ser definida com el procés que permet a les persones incrementar el seu control sobre els determinants de la salut per millorar-la, un procés en què són pilars fonamentals el respecte pels drets humans i la consideració de les persones com a part activa del procés.

Des d'aleshores la Dra. Kickbusch ha mantingut una activa implicació amb l'Organització Mundial de la Salut i se la reconeix com a impulsora de la Carta d'Ottawa de Promoció de la Salut (1986), que és el document bàsic en l'àmbit de la salut i, particularment, de la salut pública. La carta establia cinc àmbits d'acció per a la promoció de la salut: la construcció de polítiques públiques saludables,

la creació d'entorns promotores de la salut, l'enfortiment de l'acció comunitària, el desenvolupament d'habilitats personals i la reorientació dels serveis de salut.

El contingut de la Carta d'Ottawa és encara vigent avui i es considera una base forta sobre la qual construir. Ha estat l'origen de la celebració de les vuit conferències mundials en promoció de la salut que han tingut lloc posteriorment, aportant la comprensió de les estratègies de promoció de la salut i de la seva aplicació pràctica.

La Dra. Kickbusch va tenir una participació activa en aquestes conferències mundials i en la formulació de les Recomanacions d'Adelaide del 1988, en la Declaració de Jakarta el 1997, en la Carta de Bangkok per a la Promoció de la Salut en un Món Globalitzat el 2005, en la Conferència Mundial sobre Determinants Socials celebrada a Brasil el 2011, i en l'última conferència, celebrada a Hèlsinki el 2013, on es va concretar “la salut en totes les polítiques” que orienten el moviment mundial i l'europeu en particular.

De la seva trajectòria també cal ressaltar la presidència del World Demographic & Ageing Forum (Sankt Gallen, 2005); la direcció del Global Health Programme (des del 2008 fins a l'actualitat) de l'Institute of International and Development Studies de Ginebra; la presidència de Global Health Europe (2009); la condició de membre del Consell Executiu de la Careum Foundation (2009) i l'activitat com a professora en diverses institucions acadèmiques, entre elles la Universitat de Sankt Gallen (HSG), a Suïssa.

Com a líder compromesa amb la governança en salut global, la seva activitat s'ha orientat sempre vers l'apoderament de les persones, l'alfabetització en salut i el desenvolupament del moviment “Salut a totes les polítiques”. Des d'aquesta perspectiva assessora organitzacions, agències governamentals i altres institucions en polítiques i estratègies per promoure la salut a escala nacional, europea i internacional.

La professora Kickbusch és destacable tant per la seva tasca en el si de diverses institucions i organismes internacionals com per la qualitat de les seves aportacions i pel fort compromís ètic que ha demostrat al llarg de la seva trajectòria. La seva projecció acadèmica la converteix en un dels màxims referents en l'àmbit de la promoció de la salut, amb una especial rellevància en els àmbits següents:

Entorns promotores de la salut

Ha participat en el desenvolupament de l'aproximació d'entorns promotores de la salut i ha iniciat programes com ara *ciutats saludables*, escoles promotores de la salut, llocs de treball saludables, hospitals promotores de la salut i

salut en les presons, alguns dels quals s'han constituït com a xarxes de treball a escala internacional i s'ha evidenciat que són aproximacions sostenibles per a l'acció pública. A l'Organització Mundial de la Salut inicià el programa Enveliment Actiu (WHO Programme on Ageing and Health, Ginebra 1994).

Salut en totes les polítiques

Ha liderat i contribuït al desenvolupament del moviment “Salut a totes les polítiques”, ha assessorat abastament en aquesta aproximació i ha publicat nombrosos treballs. En concret, ha col·laborat com a assessora en documents i estratègies regionals, europees i internacionals des de l'any 2006, amb institucions de l'Organització Mundial de la Salut i altres estructures europees de salut pública. Darrerament, ha dirigit l'estudi “Governança per a la salut en el segle XXI”, per a l'Oficina Regional Europea de l'OMS, estudi que ha estat clau per a l'elaboració de la nova política europea Salut 2020.

Apoderament

Ha treballat per l'apoderament de les persones potenciant les estratègies d'alfabetització per a la salut. Ha promogut de forma notable el desenvolupament del concepte d'*alfabetització per a la salut (health literacy)* i l'ha reforçat a través de la recerca. Ha defensat sempre la participació ciutadana en la salut i recentment ha coordinat una publicació bàsica per a l'Organització Mundial de la Salut sobre aquesta temàtica (*Health Literacy, the Solid Facts, 2013*), a més de nombrosos articles en reconegudes revistes internacionals. Ha estat sempre activa en el camp de la salut de la dona i l'apoderament.

Governança en salut global

És considerada una de les principals líders del pensament sobre la governança en salut global. Ha fet suggeriments significatius pel que fa a la implicació d'actors múltiples a l'OMS, en les aproximacions basades en partnariats i en la política de la UE en salut global. Recentment ha impulsat la iniciativa “Global Health Europe: A Platform for European Engagement in Global Health” i el Consortium for Global Health Diplomacy.

Com a resultat de tot aquest treball, ha publicat més de 200 articles en revistes científiques de prestigi i 24 llibres especialitzats que han influït, de forma

decisiva, en l'evolució de la promoció de la salut en els últims 27 anys. També ha estat editora fundadora de la revista *Health Promotion International* (Oxford University Press) i actualment en presideix el consell editorial.

Motius que han portat al nomenament

A la Facultat d'Infermeria reconeixem la trajectòria de la Dra. Ilona Kickbusch des dels punts de vista següents:

- Lideratge en pro de la salut, expertesa significativa en l'àmbit de la promoció de la salut i rigor acadèmic, que l'han convertida en una autora de referència i reconeguda internacionalment.
- Compromís amb la governança en salut global, l'alfabetització en salut, l'apoderament de les persones i el desenvolupament del moviment “Salut a totes les polítiques”, que han guiat la seva trajectòria.
- Defensora dels valors humans i de l'atenció centrada en les persones, una aproximació compartida i amb la qual s'identifiquen plenament els estudis d'Infermeria i el Màster Universitari en Promoció de la Salut de la Universitat de Girona.
- Coneixedora i precursora de les polítiques de salut europees i internacionals, ha ocupat posicions de responsabilitat en organismes europeus i internacionals, amb compromís i coherència amb els seus valors ètics i de justícia social.

Considerem que, per les seves aportacions en l'àmbit de la promoció de la salut, la doctora Ilona Kickbusch reuneix mèrits més que suficients perquè se li reconegui la seva trajectòria.

Pel seu compromís en la defensa del dret a la salut de les persones, el seu afany en la defensa dels valors humans i la importància de centrar els esforços en les persones, així com l' impuls del moviment de salut en totes les polítiques.

La seva carrera i els seus treballs fan de la doctora Kickbusch un referent en l'àmbit de la promoció de la salut i la nodreixen d'una gran expertesa útil per al desenvolupament de polítiques, programes i iniciatives a escala regional, europea i internacional.

La seva vinculació amb la Universitat de Girona es reflecteix en la influència que ha exercit el seu pensament i la seva obra en l'orientació de la docència desenvolupada a la Facultat d'Infermeria. Les seves aportacions han orientat la formació en promoció de la salut; són presents en la formació que s'imparteix en el Grau d'Infermeria, en les competències bàsiques i específiques dels estudiants.

El seu pensament i la seva influència van motivar la creació a la Universitat de Girona de la primera Càtedra de Promoció de la Salut de l'Estat espanyol i el desenvolupament del Màster universitari en Promoció de la Salut, segon estudi oficial de la Facultat d'Infermeria. Així mateix, orienta la formació continuada de professionals que es porta a terme a través de programes de postgrau i de cursos d'estiu.

El seu compromís amb les persones i la governança en salut global, els entorns saludables, l'apoderament i el desenvolupament del moviment “Salut a totes les polítiques” són els principals àmbits de treball d'Ilona Kickbusch, àmbits amb els quals la nostra Universitat s'identifica plenament i els comparteix.

En l'àmbit de la recerca i la innovació, la promoció de la salut serà present en la creació del nou Campus de la Salut de la Universitat de Girona, que posarà de manifest la seva competència i la seva expertesa en aquest àmbit, reconegudes externament com un clar referent tant a escala nacional i europea com en l'àmbit llatinoamericà.

Atorgar a la Dra. Kickbusch la distinció de doctora honoris causa representa per a la Universitat de Girona consolidar i projectar globalment el lideratge que exerceix la institució en promoció de la salut. Relacionar la Dra. Kickbusch amb la Universitat de Girona contribuirà a donar valor i difondre a escala internacional la Universitat com a referent en formació, recerca i transferència en promoció de la salut.

Universitat
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Títol de doctor honoris causa
per la Universitat de Girona
concedeix a la

Dra. Ilona Kickbusch

Per la seva contribució destacada en el camp de la salut pública i la salut ambiental, la seva obra
en el desenvolupament del concepte "salut pública" i la seva tasca en la promoció i difusió d'una cultura de salut i de salut ambiental.

Segons el Reglament d'ordenació de l'Universitat de Girona, el 20 de maig de 2008, Llicència de l'Acadèmia Primera.

Girona, 20 de maig de 2008.

Ilona Kickbusch



[ENGLISH VERSION]

*Distinguished Rector of the University of Girona;
Distinguished academic, political and civil authorities;
Colleagues from the university community;
Esteemed Professor Ilona Kickbusch;
Ladies and gentlemen,*

I am honoured to list the merits of Professor Kickbusch in this solemn academic ceremony.

The history of the University School of Nursing has been closely linked to this evolution. The change of model undoubtedly influenced the development, values and thinking at the core of our training. This evolution has also led to the establishment of a teaching and research structure with a strong focus on health promotion, as can be clearly seen in the Master's Degree in Health Promotion.

Professor Kickbusch is internationally recognised as one of the world's leading figures in health promotion thanks to her driving commitment and the body of work she has produced since the beginnings of this movement in 1986. Under the auspices of the World Health Organisation, and with the recognised contribution of Professor Kickbusch, at which a new conceptual framework for health promotion was adopted. This framework recognised health promotion as a global socio-political process which incorporates actions not only aimed at strengthening people's abilities and capacities, but also at improving social, environmental and economic conditions with the goal of mitigating their impact on people's health. This was the first conference at which health promotion was defined as a process which enables people to increase their control over the determinants of health in order to improve it. The cornerstone of this process is respect for human rights and the adoption of a people-centred approach.

Her active involvement with the World Health Organisation is one of the most notable aspects of her career. She was the driving force behind the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion (1986), a key document in the field of health, in particular public health. The Charter, considered the bedrock of contemporary health promotion, established five key action areas for health promotion: building healthy public policy, creating supportive environments for health, strengthening community action for health, developing personal skills, and reorienting health services.

The Ottawa Charter is still highly relevant today and is considered a strong foundation on which to build. The charter was launched at the first of eight global conferences on health promotion, providing an understanding of health promotion strategies and their practical application.

She played an active part in these international conferences, specifically in the drawing up of the Adelaide Recommendations on Healthy Public Policy in 1988, in the Jakarta Declaration on Leading Health Promotion into the 21st Century in 1997, in the Bangkok Charter for Health Promotion in a Globalized World in 2005, and in the Helsinki Statement on Health in All Policies in 2013, serving to inform policy-making all over the world, particularly in Europe. She also took part in the World Conference on Social Determinants of Health held in Brazil in 2011.

Her career highlights include chairing the World Ageing and Generations Congress in Saint Gallen from 2002 to 2012; directing the Global Health Programme at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, since 2008; chairing Global Health Europe, in 2009; serving on the executive board of the Careum Foundation, in 2009; and teaching at several academic institutions, including the University of Saint Gallen (HSG) in Switzerland.

As a leading figure in the field of global health governance, her activity has always been geared towards the empowerment of people, health literacy and the development of the “health in all policies” movement. From this perspective she advises organisations, government agencies and other institutions on policies and strategies for promoting health on a national, European and international level.

Professor Kickbusch stands out as much for her work in various international institutions and bodies as for the quality of her contributions and the strong ethical commitment she has shown throughout her career. Her academic track record makes her one of the leading academics in the field of health promotion, with particular focus on the following areas:

Supportive environments for health

She has contributed to the development of an approach involving the creation of supportive environments for health and has initiated programmes such as healthy cities, health-promoting schools, healthy workplaces, health-promoting hospitals and health in prisons, some of which have become international working networks, proving their worth as sustainable approaches to public health action. At the Word Health Organisation she initiated the Healthy Ageing Programme (WHO Programme on Ageing and Health, Geneva, 1994) and has always been active in the field of empowerment and women's health.

Health in all policies

She has led and contributed greatly to the “Health in All Policies” movement and has advised widely on this approach, as well as publishing several works on the matter. Specifically, she has advised institutions such as the World Health Organisation and other European public health bodies in the preparation of regional, European and international documents and strategies. She has recently headed the study on “Governance for health in the 21st century” for the WHO Regional Office for Europe, which has been of key importance in drawing up the new health policy framework for Europe: Health 2020.

Empowerment

She has worked towards people's empowerment by promoting health literacy strategies. She has contributed notably to developing the concept of health literacy and has strengthened it through research. She has always de-

fended citizen participation in health and has recently coordinated a key publication for the World Health Organisation on this issue (WHO Health Literacy, the solid facts, 2013), as well as publishing several articles in prestigious international journals.

Global health governance

She is considered one of the leading thinkers on global health governance. She has made important suggestions concerning multi-stakeholder involvement at the WHO and partnership-based approaches to global health governance, as well as providing significant input into EU policy on global health. She has recently set up the think tank Global Health Europe: A Platform for European Engagement in Global Health and the Consortium for Global Health Diplomacy.

As a result of this work, she has published over 200 articles in prestigious scientific journals and 24 specialised books, which have had a decisive influence on the evolution of health promotion over the last 27 years. She is also the founding editor of the Health Promotion International journal (Oxford University Press) and currently chairs its editorial board.

Reasons for her nomination

The University School of Nursing values Professor Kickbusch's professional contribution from the following perspectives:

- Her leadership, significant expertise and academic rigour in health promotion, making her an internationally renowned author on the subject.
- Her commitment to global health governance, health literacy, people's empowerment and the development of the "health in all policies" movement, which have guided her career.
- Her defence of human values and the adoption of a people-centred approach, which are fully embraced by the Nursing Studies and Master's Degree in Health Promotion of the University of Girona.

- Her knowledge and pioneering contribution to European and international health policies, along with her ethical approach and commitment to social justice in the positions of responsibility she has held in European and international bodies.

We consider that Professor Ilona Kickbusch is highly deserving of recognition for her career, thanks to her significant contribution to the field of health promotion.

Her commitment to the defence of people's right to health, her unstinting efforts in the defence of human values and of a people-centred approach and her promotion of the "health in all policies" movement are all extremely worthwhile contributions.

Professor Kickbusch's career and publications have made her a leading figure in the field of health promotion, a great expert who can offer invaluable advice for the development of policies, programmes and initiatives on a regional, European and international level.

Her association with the University of Girona is reflected in the influence of her thinking and works on the teaching approach developed at the University School of Nursing. Her contributions have guided our training in health promotion and her work is present in the teaching of our nursing degree, in developing the basic and specific competences of students.

Her thinking and influence led to the university's creation of the first Chair for Health Promotion in Spain and the establishment of the Master's Degree in Health Promotion, the second official qualification in the school of nursing. Furthermore, it guides the continuous training of professionals carried out through postgraduate programmes and summer courses.

Our university identifies with and wholeheartedly shares the professor's fields of professional interest, namely her commitment to people and global health governance, healthy environments, empowerment and the development of the "health in all policies" movement.

In the area of research and innovation, health promotion is at the heart of the creation of the new Health Campus of the University of Girona, highlighting its competence and expertise in this area, and on the basis of which it has gained recognition in Spain, Europe and South America as a leading institution.

The awarding of this honorary degree to Professor Ilona Kickbusch enables the University of Girona to consolidate and raise its international profile as a leading institution in health promotion. The association of Professor Kickbusch with the University of Girona will contribute to showcasing the university internationally as a leading institution in training, research and knowledge transfer in the area of health promotion.



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DISCURS DE LA DRA. ILONA KICKBUSCH





*Your excellencies,
dear colleagues,
dear students,
dear guests*

Let me first thank you for this great honour from a young but already distinguished university. My initial doctorate comes from a university which was created in the 1970ies to build new fields of research and teaching. Konstanz is also an old medieval town - and that is one of the reasons I felt at home straightaway in Girona. What a special and beautiful place! And what a wonderful place to have a ceremony - I would like to thank the rector Professor Sergi Bonet for welcoming me here. I will never forget this very special atmosphere in this historical building.

It is a very special pleasure to become - through this honorary doctorate - part of school of nursing and the only chair of health promotion in Spain. Thank you to the Dean of the School of Nursing Professor Josefina Patiño and to the Director of the Chair of Health Promotion Professor Dolors Juvinyà. They have been wonderful hosts and it was fascinating for me to hear about the work of the school and the Chair. I hope we will find ways to cooperate over the next years. Nurses - especially community nurses - play an important role in health promotion, even more so now as we need to develop health promotion models to respond to the challenges of living with chronic disease and multi morbidity.

It is also special to receive such an honour in Catalonia. Dipsalut and the government of Catalonia have shown a strong commitment to health promotion and moved forward strong policy initiatives in Health in all

Policies as documented by the implementation of PINSAP. And I am delighted that representatives from the Department of Health of Catalonia are here as well today.

So here in Girona we are in a context of innovation in many ways. One might therefore ask: why still consider health promotion an area of innovation? The Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion after all was adopted in 1986 - that is nearly 30 years ago. Is it still relevant? Should a university, should a government still be working in this area? My answer is of course a resounding YES. The subtitle of the Ottawa Charter is: the move towards a new public health. And that is what we are still constructing - the approach to a public health fit for the 21st century.

For those of you not familiar with the Charter I would like to highlight some of its key features. It defines five action areas: build healthy public policies, create supportive environments, strengthen community action, develop personal skill and reorient health services. Three key strategies are necessary to do this: mediate, advocate and enable. This is a vision that moves away from an authoritarian public health to an democratic approach that empowers people to act on the determinants of their health.

Let me highlight some of the components of the Ottawa Charter and the health promotion approach that are particularly important to me, and like the action areas of the Charter they are closely interrelated:

The Ottawa Charter positions health firmly in the context of everyday life: where people live, love, work and play. If we wrote this today we would probably add: where people travel, shop and google. When the Ottawa Charter was written health professionals focused mainly on individual behaviours - today health promotion strategies much more firmly take the social, cultural and commercial environment of people's lives and decisions into account.

This focus on the "settings" of everyday life was probably one the most forward looking dimensions of the Ottawa Charter. Initially health promotion focused on settings such as schools and workplaces to make them more health promoting through an integrated and participatory strategy. Very important has been the Healthy Cities Project - which has brought together cities and towns from all around the world to become "Healthy Cities". This means that the city parliament and authorities are commit-

ted to health and that the political process takes health into account when making decisions about traffic, urban planning, housing and social services. The city of Barcelona has been a strong contributor to this movement from very early on and the Diputació de Girona and the Ajuntament de Girona are members of the Spanish Healthy Cities network RECS.

But in the last 30 years new contextual challenges have emerged that health promotion must be engaged with: the rise of the obesity epidemic clearly shows the need to address the commercial determinants of health which contribute to what we now call an "obesogenic environment" - and it also draws attention to how we plan our cities. In new ways the health agenda has become linked to the environmental agenda through the challenge of climate change - and in political terms we aim to bring together the benefits of a policy approach which contributes to reducing climate change with positive health outcomes - promoting cycling is one such approach. This also indicates the close links between local agendas and global agendas. Health promotion will be very important for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals that are to be adopted in September of this year 2015 by the United Nations.

Health promoters - because of the history of health promotion in counter acting a health education approach that blames the individual - have initially been hesitant to engage with issues around individual decision making. But in a highly commercialized environment where every choice becomes a health choice and frequently the health dimensions of choices are not clear - take for example the levels of sugar in soft drinks - the health literacy of people becomes critical. Surveys in Europe have found the health literacy of the population - that means their capacity to make choices that support their health - to be very low. This is an area where health rights and consumer rights meet: a challenge for politicians to create transparency of information for consumers - for example through labelling products clearly, that everyone can understand.

I have already alluded to the fact that health promotion is deeply democratic - participation matters. Many good health initiatives come from the community and can only be implemented with full participation of the community. A defining factor of health promotion is empowerment - and here lies the challenge of involving many different groups in society, especially the socially disadvantaged. There is always the danger

that health promotion programmes are taken up more by groups that are already healthier and more involved in society.

That is why the commitment to equity matters - people's access to power and resources influences their health. The Ottawa Charter already alluded to the prerequisites for health - this thinking has been expanded and reinforced through the work on the social determinants of health. The increasing inequality in many European countries and between European countries, the challenges of austerity politics, the challenges through globalization and a deep restructuring of our societies has put health promotion squarely into the political arena. Health is a political choice - it requires - as the WHO European Health 2020 policy framework expands - a whole of government and a whole of society approach. Politics matters, our democratic institutions must value health.

I hope this short overview has shown you the relevance of health promotion. I hope it has also indicated the many possibilities that emerge for cooperating across academic disciplines in health promotion research - to move forward it must build on multi-disciplinary engagement. For example it needs the contribution of the political and social sciences to address the political and social determinants of health, cooperation with law and economics to understand the impact of trade regimes on health and the environmental sciences to cooperate on issues of climate change and health. I hope this challenge will be of interest to many academics and students at Girona university. And I very much hope that you will consider me part of this effort.



DISCURS DEL DR. SERGI BONET MARULL, RECTOR DE LA UNIVERSITAT DE GIRONA



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Today is a very special day for the University of Girona. For the first time, we are awarding a doctorate Honoris Causa to a nursing professional, Doctor Ilona Kickbusch.

Her sponsor, Doctor Dolors Juvinyà, has described in great detail Doctor Kickbusch's teaching, research and administrative career, during which she has committed herself fully to the fields of Health Promotion and Global Health.

She is, in fact, a global reference in these two fields and, as such, has also been a reference for Nursing Degree and Master's in Health Promotion at the University of Girona.

Aujourd'hui, comme je l'ai dit auparavant, finit le processus que nous avons commencé le 3 décembre 2014 pour fêter les quarante ans des études d'infirmierie à Gérone.

Je voudrais souligner qu'à l'Université de Gérone –et cela fait la différence par rapport à d'autres universités– les études d'infirmierie sont menés par une Faculté, la Faculté d'Infirmierie, qui organise la Licence en Infirmierie et la Maîtrise en Promotion de la Santé. Nous sommes heureux de constater que ces deux études ont non seulement une grande qualité, mais aussi une forte demande.

Derrière ce projet d'un si grand succès il y a beaucoup d'infirmières et d'infirmiers qui ont consacré leurs meilleurs efforts et leur passion à ces études. Comme vous l'avez entendu plusieurs fois, les rêves se réalisent quand la passion et la professionnalité se rencontrent.

Aujourd’hui nous célébrons cette réalité, cette normalité universitaire des études d’infirmerie. Et nous le célébrons en décernant à une infirmière, la docteure Ilona Kickbusch, le Doctorat Honoris Causa par l’Université de Gérone.

A tot el món, en els darrers deu anys, només quatre infermeres han estat investides amb el doctorat honoris causa.

La primera, el 2004, quan la Dra. Françoise Collière, assessora del Ministeri de Salut francès, va ser investida per la Universitat de Las Palmas.

Deu anys més tard, l’any 2014, es van distingir tres infermeres més: la Dra. Afaf Meleis, degana d’infermeria de la Universitat de Pennsylvania, fou investida per la Universitat d’Alacant; la Dra. Silvina Malvárez, assessora de l’OMS, fou investida per la Universitat McMaster del Canadà, i finalment, la Dra. Marina Guzmán, consellera del Consejo Nacional de la Magistratura, fou investida per la Universitat Nacional de San Agustín del Perú.

Avui, la Universitat de Girona ha investit una altra infermera com a doctora honoris causa, la cinquena a tot al món, la doctora Ilona Kickbusch. És, doncs, un dia de celebració i d’agraïment.

De celebració perquè la Universitat de Girona contribueix, amb aquest acte, a situar els estudis d’infermeria al més alt nivell dels estudis universitaris dins del sistema públic català.

I d’agraïment perquè avui és just reconèixer, públicament, l’esforç i la dedicació posada per tanta i tanta gent al llarg de més de quaranta anys per implantar i consolidar aquests estudis a Girona. El mèrit fonamental d’aquest projecte reeixit és de tota la gent, infermers i infermeres que han treballat incansablement fins a dur els estudis d’infermeria de la nostra universitat on són ara, uns estudis de referència internacional.

A tots vosaltres, moltes gràcies.







Universitat
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