



ANNUAL REPORT

2006

PREFACE

The European Public Health Association, or EUPHA in short, is an umbrella organisation for public health associations in Europe. EUPHA was founded in 1992. EUPHA is an international, multidisciplinary, scientific organisation, bringing together around 12'000 public health experts for professional exchange and collaboration throughout Europe. We encourage a multidisciplinary approach to public health. Our mission is to be the proactive platform for public health professionals in research and practice and be a bridge between these professionals and policymakers. At the end of 2006, we have a total of 61 members from 39 countries, divided as follows:

- 40 member associations
- 6 individual members
- 11 institutional members
- 4 associate members

This document summarizes the activities of the European Public Health Association in 2006. We hope that this annual report provides you with more insight on our activities. Should you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to contact our EUPHA office.

Horst Noack, EUPHA president 2006

EUPHA 2006: ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 14th annual EUPHA conference was organised from 16 to 18 November in Montreux, Switzerland. The main theme of the conference was "Politics, policies and/or the public's health".

For the Montreux conference, we received a total of 604 single abstracts and 49 workshop proposals from 50 countries. This again marked two records: abstracts were submitted from more countries than ever before, and we have reached the highest number of abstract and workshop submissions. All abstracts and workshops were peer-reviewed by our International Scientific Committee, lead this year by Prof. Charlotte Braun-Fahrlander. The International Scientific Committee consisted of 38 members from 29 European countries.

In 2006, the scoring system was changed: the scoring of workshops and single abstracts was split. Six members of the International Scientific Committee, with experience in organising workshops, were asked to score the workshops. The others were invited to score (part of) the single presentations. The members of the scientific committee have used a rating scale ranging from 1 to 5 for the final judgement. The overall average of all judges and all (single) abstracts was 3.20. The average judgement per abstract varied from 4.250 (highest score) to 1.778 (lowest score). The overall average of all judges for the workshops was 3.320. The average judgement per workshop varied from 4.600 (highest score) to 1.400 (lowest score).

EUPHA would like to thank the members of the International Scientific Committee for their expertise and commitment to ensure the scientific quality of each EUPHA conference.

The EUPHA conference in Montreux introduced a number of innovations to our conferences:

- Due to the large interest in participation in the Montreux conference, 11 parallel sessions took place at six slots in the programme, totalling the number of oral sessions to a maximum of 66.
- More than 250 posters were presented at the Montreux conference.
- A new record in pre-conference activities was reached. Furthermore, a number of side-conference activities were also organised.
- Following the positive experience of the Graz conference, the Montreux conference also organised the oral and poster presentations in tracks, making it easier to follow a specific subject throughout the conference.

A conference proceedings report in which the major outcomes are made available to a wider audience is to be published the beginning of 2007.

The best poster prize was voted by the participants and was awarded to Dr Gabriele Messina and his team of the University of Siena, Department of Public Health, Laboratory of Health Services Research, Siena, Italy for his poster: "Measure your health!".

The best abstract prize went to H el ene Chevrou-S everac and her colleagues of the Institute of Health Economics and Management, University of Lausanne, Switzerland for their abstract: "Out-of-pocket payments and financial burden of elderly with depressive symptoms across Europe". Both prizes consist of a waiver of conference fees for the year after.

EUPHA 2006: UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The 2007 EUPHA conference will be organised by the Society for Social Medicine in the Finlandia Hall, Helsinki, Finland. The main theme is "Future of Public Health in the Unified Europe". The dates are 11 to 13 October 2007. A first announcement was distributed at the 2006 conference and is available online via www.eupha.org.

The 2008 EUPHA conference will be organised by the Portuguese Association for Public Health Promotion in Lisbon Portugal. The main theme of the conference is "I-health: health and innovation in Europe". The dates are 6-8 November 2008.

The 2009 EUPHA conference will be organised in Cracow, Poland by the Polish Association of Public Health. The 2010 EUPHA conference will be organised by the Netherlands Public Health Federation and will be held in Amsterdam.

Information on the upcoming EUPHA conferences is regularly updated on the EUPHA website: www.eupha.org.

The EUPHA conferences are based on a rotation schedule (South, North, East, West) and EUPHA plans to follow the schedule listed below:

- 2011 Southern Europe
- 2012 Northern Europe
- 2013 Southern Europe
- 2014 Western Europe

For EUPHA members interested in organising an annual EUPHA conference, the EUPHA office has set up a conference manual, containing planning, finances and other organisational information on how to apply for and organise a EUPHA conference. This conference manual is regularly updated and can be found on the "Governing Council only" part of our website.

EUPHA 2006: THE EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The European Journal of Public Health is EUPHA's scientific journal, which is published on a bimonthly basis. The data below are based on information received from the publisher (OUP), the EJPH editorial office at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden and EUPHA office.

Subscription

The number of subscriptions to the journal remains very strong with a 7% level of attrition on full rate subscriptions between 2005 and so far in 2006. EUPHA online subscriptions to the journal are also up to 4,514 for 2006.

	2005 data	2006 (until October)
Institutional subscriptions	281	261
Personal hard copy subscr.	7	4
EUPHA hard copy subscr	15	14
EUPHA online subscr	4312	4514

EUPHA subscription

The EJPH electronic access for our members has been set up in the beginning of 2005. EUPHA office contacted all the members to provide us (and OUP) with an updated database of members, who also wanted to be EUPHA members. Some countries have been quick in reacting, others have only provided us with addresses as of 2006.

There are still some problems in the up keeping of EUPHA – EJPH subscriptions. These include:

1. A number of our individual members have not (consciously) received the information on how to obtain online access.
2. Linked to this is that the activation of the individual accounts is quite low. The activation was at 13.5% at the beginning of June 2006.
3. Some member countries have not send their membership information yet.
4. The database at OUP and EUPHA are not consistent with each other.

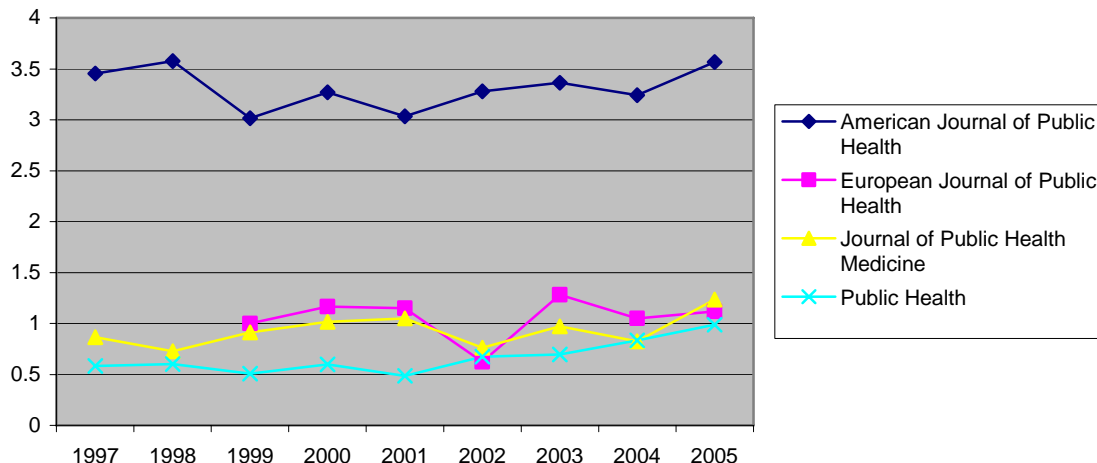
We are working on a number of solutions to overcome these problems:

1. We will continue to repeat the membership benefit of online access to our individual members. This will include sending e-toc alert messages to all our members as an extra service.
2. OUP assumes that the low percentage is also due to the fact that a large number of our members may have access to the journal via an institutional account and therefore do not need to activate their individual account. We plan to arrange a reader survey to try and get a feel for how people are accessing the journal.
3. We will continue to ask members to send us their updated membership lists. We will have secretarial support to provide a continuous service to our members.
4. We will continue to exchange information between the 2 databases and compare the lists on a regular basis.

Impact factor

In the latest ISI report (published June 2006), EJPH's impact factor increased to 1.118 and it is ranked at 63/99 in the Public, Environmental and Occupational Health category. By way of comparison, some competing journals are shown in the table below.

Public Health Journal Impact Factors 1997 - 2005



Homepage hits/full text downloads

In January 2005, due to the change in production arrangements, we were able to publish EJPH online in both full-text HTML and PDF format, on the HighWire platform. HighWire Press is very well respected and assists in the online publication of many leading titles. The EJPH has had extremely strong online usage during 2005 and is still increasing in 2006. It is now receiving over 11,000 full-text downloads per month. This increase in online usage is likely to be due to two key factors: (1) the wider accessibility of the online version (e.g. through EUPHA member access, institutional subscriber access, and consortia deals); (2) the increased profile and functionality provided by HighWire.

E-toc

E-toc is an email alerting system to alert readers of the online EJPH that the new EJPH is available online. The number of people registered for the e-mail table of contents service is fluctuating but remains above 3,000.

Manuscript handling

The backlog of papers published on Advance Access but awaiting issue publication continues to decline. We still need to continue to monitor the backlog. The average time between receipt at OUP and publication online is consistently coming in at the target time of 4 weeks. The typesetting and copy-editing have been of good quality. Proofs are produced within 10 working days. With the launch of a new submissions system, all accepted papers are now received via Manuscript Central Version 3 and on acceptance the files are exported from Manuscript Central and delivered to two destinations; the typesetter and Oxford Journals FTP sites. This ensures that the typesetter receives the file immediately and there are no delays caused by accepted papers requiring manual processing. The average time from acceptance to online publication is 7.2 weeks for 2006 to date. Publication speeds have experienced slight fluctuations (typically caused by late author corrections) but have generally remained below 6 weeks. The acceptance to publication times have been a little erratic, generally as a consequence of the backlog and the papers that have come through the previous route of submission. However as the majority of accepted papers are now all coming through Manuscript Central the acceptance to publication times are coming in more consistently under 6 weeks.

The number of papers being accepted each month is gradually declining and so, in turn, is the backlog of papers. This means that the amount of time between acceptance and publication has come down from an average of over 70 weeks in October 2005 to an average of 26 weeks in October 2006. However the backlog of papers is still considerable at around 62 papers and so it is crucial that the amount of accepted papers continues to remain low (at least less than the amount of papers going to issues) for the short-term to ensure that these acceptance to publication in issue times continue to come down

Marketing

The marketing of the EJPH continues to focus on three core objectives:

1. Maintaining and increasing subscription revenues and distribution
2. Increasing the number of high quality submissions:
 - Brand awareness of the journal
 - Promotion of Advance Access
 - Raising awareness of Open Access
 - Promotion of Online Submission
 - Building awareness of E-letters
3. Increasing usage of your content
 - New 'My Account' feature which enables customers to register in one convenient location where they can save searches, bookmark articles, register for content alerts, view online sample copies and manage their subscriptions. This enables us to build customer profiles and monitor usage of journal content.

Abstract supplement

The accepted abstracts of the EUPHA conference were published as a supplement to the EJPH, thereby widely distributing the public health experiences throughout Europe.

EUPHA 2006: ACTIVITIES OF THE EUPHA SECTIONS

Section on Health Promotion

The EUPHA section on health promotion is presided by Professor Heiko Waller of Lüneburg University and Professor Alf Trojan of Hamburg University, Germany. The section currently has 753 members. The section workshop during the annual conference of EUPHA 2005 in Graz was dedicated to the topic "Linking health promotion and health care" and was very well attended. Heiko Waller participated in the preparation meeting for the EUPHA conference 2006 in Montreux June 9-11. He also joined- as liaison person to IUHPE- the meeting of the IUHPE European Regional Committee in Budapest. The section supported the application of IUHPE to DG Sanco concerning phase 2 of the European Health

Promotion Indicator Development (EUHPID) Project as a collaborating partner. Alf Trojan and Heiko Waller were asked to manage a special edition of the Italian Journal of Public Health about health promotion in Europe. At the Montreux conference, the section organised a workshop on 20 years health promotion research in and on settings, an annual meeting and chaired a parallel session on health promotion in settings.

Section on Food and Nutrition

The EUPHA section on food and nutrition is presided by Dr Enni Mertanen of the School of Tourism and Service Management, Jyväskylä University of Applied Sciences, Finland. The section currently has 297 members. At the Montreux conference, the section is co-organising two parallel sessions on obesity, one workshop where the draft EUPHA statement on how to tackle the obesity epidemic was presented and an annual meeting.

Section on Health Services Research

The EUPHA section on health services research has been under new presidency this year: Dr Tit Albreht of the Slovenian Institute of Public Health, Ljubljana, Slovenia. The section currently has 594 members. The section is representing EUPHA in the broad public consultation launched by the European Commission, which aims to provide greater legal certainty regarding cross-border healthcare under Community Law, and to support cooperation between health services in member states. At the Montreux conference, the section organised a workshop on methods of evaluation, elements of input and policy support, an annual meeting and co-organised a pre conference training seminar on Health services research and policy.

Section on Social Security and Health

The EUPHA section on social security and health is presided by Professor Kristina Alexanderson of the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden. The section currently has 426 members.

During the Montreux conference, the section organised:

- One full-day pre-conference meeting on “Research on sickness absence and mental health – recent progress in theory and methods”.
- A workshop on “Evaluation on return-to-work interventions for sickness absentees: alternatives to randomised controlled studies”.
- A Section meeting.

Several members of the Section are now engaged in scientific collaboration as a result of contacts through the Section.

Section on Child and Adolescent Public Health

The EUPHA section on child and adolescent public health is presided by Dr Auke Wieggersma of the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. The section currently has 290 members.

At the Montreux conference, the section organised a workshop on “How to use the European strategy for child and adolescent health and development “ as well as an annual meeting. The president co-chaired two parallel sessions on Child and adolescent lifestyle programmes and on Children at Risk. The day before the conference, a pre conference meeting was organised on “R U Effective? Meeting the health needs of young people”.

Section on the Utilisation of Medicines

The EUPHA section on the utilisation of medicines is presided by Dr. Pietro Folino-Gallo from the Italian Medicines Agency, Rome, Italy and Professor Arne Melander from the NEPI Foundation and Malmö University Hospital, Sweden. The section currently has 150 members. The section aims to define methods to evaluate the impact of medicines utilisation on public health. Members of the section are also involved in two European Union-funded projects: EURO-MED-STAT and PPRI. EURO-MED-STAT is a project devoted to build a database of medicines available in Europe with information on their price, utilisation and expenditure. Moreover an inventory of the e-prescribing database in European countries is ongoing with the aim to evaluate the possibility to pool together data from the inventoried sources in a “European Primary Care Database”. The PPRI project aims to produce a country profile, according to an established template, for each participating country.

In 2006, the section has contributed to the publication of two special issues of the Italian Journal of Public Health: the first one devoted to medical errors, with special regard to medication errors and safety; the second one devoted to medicine utilisation and public health. By its members the section is present in several EU activities including the Working party on health care systems (DG Public Health) and the Working Group on pricing of the Pharmaceutical Forum (DG Industry).

Section on Infectious Diseases Control

Until November 2006, the EUPHA section on infectious diseases control was presided by Dr Viviane van Casteren of the Scientific Institute of Public Health, Brussels, Belgium. At the November annual meeting, a new president, Dr Ruth Gelletlie of the Health Protection Agency, Leeds, UK, was elected. The section currently has 344 members. The section organised following activities in the course of 2006:

IDC regular meeting, 27 January

11 members present

Topics discussed: feedback on EUPHA Graz conference; INPHECT initiative; section's website; Montreux conference 2006; representation of the section in the ECDC Advisory Forum; representation of the section in a meeting on epidemiology training courses in Europe, organised by ECDC; election of new president and new structure of the section; revision of the goals of the section; collaboration of the section with the European Journal of Public Health; collaboration with ESCMID

Meeting with the EUPHA manager, 16 March

3 members present

Topics discussed: section's website; Graz conference book; sponsoring possibilities for section's activities; speaker's fee at the EUPHA conference, data base with the members, section's secretariat

Montreux June Executive council and Sections meeting, 10 June

3 members present

Topics discussed: updating on the section's activities and contributing to the development of the scientific programme for the annual EUPHA conference

Tele-conference, 27 September

About 6 members present

Topics discussed: section's website; programme for the annual conference; procedure for election of new president

EUPHA conference in Montreux

3 workshops/3 parallel sessions

1 breakfast meeting

1 section meeting

Section on Public Health Epidemiology

The EUPHA Section on Public Health Epidemiology has a coordinating group constituted by Prof Paolo Villari of the University 'La Sapienza', Rome, Italy, Dr Giuseppe La Torre of the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy and Dr Alastair Leyland of the Medical Research Council, Glasgow, UK. Paolo Villari held the presidency until the EUPHA Conference in Montreux, followed by Alastair Leyland until the 2007 Conference and Giuseppe La Torre until the 2008 Conference.

The Section on Public Health Epidemiology organised a workshop at the 2005 Graz Conference on Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis in Public Health. The official workshop of the Section at the Montreux Conference will be on Contextual and compositional determinants of inequalities.

The section currently has 804 members.

The annual meeting at the Graz Conference identified working groups as the main tool of the Section. The following working groups were approved: 1) Guidelines of public health practice (Contact person: Fabrizio Faggiano, fabrizio.faggiano@med.unipmn.it); 2) Training and education for public health epidemiology in Europe (Contact person: Giuseppe La Torre, giuseppe.latorre@rm.unicatt.it); 3) Contextual and compositional determinants of inequalities (Contact person: Alastair Leyland, a.leyland@msoc.mrc.gla.ac.uk); 4) Systematic reviews and meta-analysis in public health (Contact person: Paolo Villari, paolo.villari@uniroma1.it); 5) Health Observatories (Contact person: John

Wilkinson (john.wilkinson@nepho.org.uk). Members were strongly encouraged to adhere to one or more of the following Working Groups.

Section on Public Health Practice and Policy

The EUPHA section on public health practice and policy is presided by Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat from Malta. At the moment, the section has 709 members. This section remains the initiator of the SPHERE project (see below). At the Montreux conference, the section organised a full-day meeting of the SPHERE project and two workshops: one on “Measuring European public health research: what does the literature show?” and the other one on “Future European public health research - challenges and opportunities - A SPHERE workshop”. Furthermore the section co-organised a workshop on “Elderly safety in Europe - an issue for public health policy” together with the proposed section on injury prevention and safety promotion. An annual meeting was also organised at the Montreux conference.

Section on Migrant Health

The EUPHA section on migrant health is presided by Dr Walter Devillé from NIVEL, the Netherlands. The vice-president is Dr Marleen Foets of Erasmus University, the Netherlands. The section currently has 186 members. As discussed during the meeting of the section at the EUPHA conference 2005, a pre conference on Migrant health was organised on November 15th in collaboration with the Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies. The morning sessions were dedicated to Swiss research and activities in this field, the afternoon sessions to methodological issues. Besides the pre conference, the section organised a workshop titled : “Health services for asylum seekers and refugees in Europe: consequences for policymaking.” There were 5 presentations from all over Europe and a general discussion. The aim of the workshop was to discuss the responsibilities of health care for asylum seekers: public health or justice? Besides the Pre-conference and the Workshop, there was one parallel session on migrant health. There were in total 7 oral presentations and about 18 poster presentations.

Finally the section was contacted by WHO-Europe to give a presentation on migration and public health concerns on October 20 in Turku, Finland at the annual meeting of the WHO European Healthy Cities network.

Section on Public Health Genomics

The EUPHA section on public health genomics (PHG) is presided by Professor Angela Brand, Director of the German Center for Public Health Genomics at the University of Applied Sciences, Bielefeld, Germany. The section currently has about 70 members. The section aims to establish infrastructures in Europe that will enable the genome-based knowledge and technologies to be responsibly, effectively and efficiently translated into evidence-based policies and health interventions for the benefit of population health.

In 2006, various links between the section and other PHG relevant European as well as international networks and institutions have been established to gain sustainability in the field of PHG. Under these are links to PHGEN (Public Health Genomics European Network), GRaPH-Int (Genome-based Research and Population Health International Network), P³G (Public Population Project in Genomics), PHOEBE (Promoting Harmonisation Of Epidemiological Biobanks in Europe), EUnetHTA (European network for Health Technology Assessment), EuroGentest (Genetic Testing in Europe), Office of Genomics and Disease Prevention (CDC, Atlanta, USA), PHGU (Public Health Genetics Unit, Cambridge, UK), HumGen Canada and UK Biobank. With support of PHGEN National Task Forces (NTFs) on PHG have already been established in Turkey, Italy, and Belgium. Germany, Portugal, Greece, France, The Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden and Malta are currently preparing additional NTFs.

Members of the section have contributed to publications in various journals such as the European Journal of Public Health (EJPH), Genetics in Medicine and JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association). Special issues on PHG have been published in the Italian Journal of Public Health (IJPH) and in Community Genetics (CG). In addition, members of the section have been experts for the OECD on the background paper on genetic testing (quality assurance guidelines).

At EUPHA 2006, the section organised a workshop on PHG entitled "European networks in the intersection between public health and genetics: bridging research and European policy making".

EUPHA 2006: PROJECTS

EUPHA has been involved in a number of projects in 2005, including:

SPHERE project

SPHERE (Strengthening Public Health Research in Europe) is a 'Specific Support Action' funded by the European Commission Directorate for Research. The project was initiated by the former president of the EUPHA section on Public Health Practice and Policy, Prof. Mark McCarthy. The project is coordinated through EUPHA, with involvement also of national public health associations. The aims of the project are to describe public health research at European level, including support by national governments, and advise how it can be strengthened and most effectively integrated with European health policy.

Project aims:

- To create discussion between public health research with researchers, practitioners, research funders, policy makers, and wider stakeholders;
 - To review performance of past public health research in Europe;
 - To reflect on and promote cross-national public health research and the EU Seventh Framework Research Programme
 - To give attention to accession countries and global trends ;
 - To strengthen networks, including access and dissemination, and prepare publications.
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- SPHERE is divided into work-packages distributed among the partners, and are broadly grouped as follows, being undertaken include the following:
 - bibliographic literature reviews, on health services research, environmental protection, genetic epidemiology, health management, communicable disease control and health promotion;
 - descriptions of structures and perceptions from ministries of health and research, European institutions, non-governmental organizations , researchers and allied research organisations; and
 - development of dialogue to promote a shared agenda and more closely match research needs of policy-makers with capacity of the European public health research community.

Workshops / Meetings

- To date, SPHERE has held several workshops and meetings.
- Scarborough, June 2005: Workshop on Methodologies;
- EUPHA Conference, Graz, November 2005: Partner "kick-off" pre-meeting and Conference workshops discussing the project;
- Chantilly, France, March 2006, a partner meeting to discuss progress made with the literature reviews and bibliometric analyses, and to discuss progress towards the Montreux conference;
- Brussels, Belgium, May 2006, a partner meeting to discuss surveys of stakeholder organisations.
- London, September 2006 with the EUPHA Past-Presidents forum, to plan how EUPHA can maintain links with public health research commissioners at European and Member State levels;
- EUPHA conference Montreux, November 2006, there will be a Partners meeting (on the Wednesday) followed by two open workshops for EUPHA members:
- Partners in the 'Literature Review' Group will be presenting the major findings from their research, and Aileen Clarke and Olivier Grimaud will describe the bibliometric approach.
- The second will involve presentations from Kevin McCarthy (DG Research), describing the forthcoming EU Seventh Framework Research Programme 2007-2013, and Michel Pletschette (PHEA) describing the current Sanco public health programme. There will also be presentations from researchers in fields of Patient Safety, and Ageing, discussing on ways to develop Europe-wide public health intervention research; and

A preliminary report circulated to stakeholders in European institutions and member states is planned for 2007 with the final results of the SPHERE project presented at the Helsinki EUPHA meeting.

ASPHER/EUPHA accreditation project

EUPHA is very pleased that the ASPHER project on accreditation of public health education was accepted by the Leonardo programme of the European Commission. EUPHA is a partner in this project. At the Graz conference, the project was presented in a workshop. At the same time, a kick-off meeting was organised during the conference. From EUPHA side, Prof. Horst Noack and Dineke Zeegers Paget are the contact persons for this project. The interim report for this project was presented in a meeting on 14 September in Maastricht, the Netherlands. At the ASPHER annual conference (15-17 September 2006), an update on the project was presented to the ASPHER members.

EUPHA/OSI/DEZA project to support public health experts from central and Eastern Europe

Together with the Open Society Institute (OSI) of the Soros foundation, EUPHA continued efforts to support public health experts from central and Eastern Europe to participate in EUPHA conferences. This year we received important financial support from the Swiss Cooperation Office – DEZA. The combination of the efforts of the three organisations resulted in just over 120 CEE participants to come to the Montreux conference. We are very pleased with this successful collaboration.

EUPHA has been invited to join a number of EC project proposals. We have accepted the ones described below:

European health policy and future of public health in the Unified Europe (Negotiations ongoing)

This conference proposal is set up by STAKES and concerns co-financing for the 2007 EUPHA conference.

Time period: 2006-2008

EUPHA role: Associate partner

EUPHA contact person: Dineke Zeegers Paget

EUHPID 2: European Health Promotion Indicator Development (EUHPID) Project: Phase 2 (PROPOSED)

The EUHPID (2001-2003) Project was funded under the framework of the EC Health Monitoring Programme to improve knowledge and information concerning health through the development of a common set of European health promotion indicators. EUHPID 2 will build on the theoretical foundation and classification system produced under Phase 1, create strong partnerships with European networks of health promotion practitioners and focus, with their help, on the production of a series of operational indicator sets related to integrated health promotion settings (using schools, workplaces, healthy cities and hospitals as examples) and to health promotion policy and practice. Priority will be given to creating appropriate practical data gathering mechanisms throughout all Member States and Candidate Countries.

Time period: 3 years (2007-2009)

EUPHA role: Collaborating partner (dissemination role)

EUPHA contact person: Heiko Waller

Monitoring the health status of migrants within Europe: development of indicators (Negotiations ongoing)

The initiator of this project is the Department of Health Policy and Management of the Erasmus University Rotterdam. The project was already prepared and submitted at the last call for proposals and put on the reserve list. It has been reworked and resubmitted. EUPHA activities will include dissemination of the progress and results, using written tools (EUPHA website, electronic newsletters, EJPH column, etc.) and oral tools (conferences, scientific meetings, pre-conference activities)..

Time period: 3 years

EUPHA role: Associate partner

Contact person EUPHA: Dineke Zeegers Paget

Mapping professional home care in Europe: EURHOMAP (Negotiations ongoing)

This project is submitted by NIVEL. This project aims to fill this gap by showing variations and models of provision and good practice in professional home care in 30 European countries. The project will be

implemented by a partnership covering experts from 9 countries and including 3 international organisations.

Time period: 2007-2009

EUPHA role: Collaborating partner (dissemination role)

Contact person EUPHA: Dineke Zeegers Paget

Primary health care activity monitor for Europe: PHAMEU (Reserve list of EU)

This project is submitted by NIVEL. This project aims to fill this gap by developing and implementing a Monitor on primary care, including system features, practice profiles and consumer evaluations in 30 European countries. The project will be implemented by a partnership covering experts from 26 countries and including 4 international organisations. Collaborating partners (WHO Europe, the European General Practice Research Network, EUPHA and the European Forum for Primary Care) will play an important role in disseminating results internationally by using their platforms consisting of conferences and workshops, newsletters, discussion forums and websites.

Time period: 2007-2009

EUPHA role: Collaborating partner (dissemination role)

Contact person EUPHA: Dineke Zeegers Paget

Project on the development of lists of core competencies for the Master's degree in Public Health (PROPOSED)

The initiator is ASPHER. The project intends to signal what MPH graduates have learnt by attending MPH programmes.

Time period:

EUPHA role: Collaborating partner (dissemination, provision of experts, practice input)

Contact person EUPHA: Dineke Zeegers Paget

EUPHA 2006: OTHER ACTIVITIES

In 2006, EUPHA has focused on developing the activities in the field of capacity building, which included the elaboration of proposals for five new EUPHA sections, which were officially approved by the EUPHA Governing council; improving EUPHA's visibility; and re-assessing the internal organisation (which culminated in a proposed reorganisation of the structure of EUPHA).

Capacity building

The EUPHA president 2005-2006 put capacity building as one of the priority areas for EUPHA in 2006. This area of EUPHA was further developed in a number of ways:

- the collaboration with ASPHER (training) was further developed. Bilateral discussions on more intense collaboration were organised at the Graz conference and at the annual ASPHER conference in Maastricht, the Netherlands in September 2006. Ideas to organise a joint EUPHA-ASPHER conference were discussed in more detail. Furthermore, the active involvement of EUPHA in the accreditation project (see above) was organised.
- The conference 2005 book of EUPHA (available at the 2006 conference) also included several articles on capacity building.
- Discussions with experts on a section on knowledge management and public health ethics were also initiated.
- Proposals for five new EUPHA sections were elaborated (see below).

Elaborating proposals for five new EUPHA sections

We are very pleased that five proposals for EUPHA sections were accepted by the Governing Council at their annual meeting in November 2006. The new EUPHA sections are:

Section on public health economics

This initiative was developed by Prof Maarten J. Postma from the University of Groningen (dept. of Pharmacy; chair in pharmaco-economics). The initiative is supported by 55 public health experts. This year the section organised a workshop at the EUPHA conference in Montreux with contributions from the Netherlands, Germany and WHO. With topics directed at infectious diseases, screening on microalbuminuria, donor recruitment policies and blood safety and costs of smoking. At the annual meeting of the proposed section, opportunities for next year were also discussed. Given the absence

of financial resources we have to be creative on that and should goal at developing common project proposals.

Section on chronic diseases

This initiative was developed by Dr Iveta Rajnicova of the University of PJ Safarik, Slovakia. The initiative is supported by 45 public health experts. During the 2005 EUPHA conference in Graz a brainstorming meeting for the proposed section was held. In total 18 participants from 7 countries (Croatia, Denmark, Georgia, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland) were present at this meeting. The participants discussed the possible roles and functions of new Section. In addition, key persons for the planned workshops during the EUPHA 2006 conference in Montreux were identified.

The group has been co-operating on a chapter for EUPHA 2005 Conference Report. This paper deals with main challenges for public health within the framework of the growing burden of chronic disease thorough the world. It discusses the issue of a broad model of public health that is needed in guiding comprehensive public health action: assessment of disability patterns and preventive and health care needs; development and implementation of integrated strategies of primary prevention, secondary prevention, effective treatment, rehabilitation and tertiary prevention; new efforts in health education and workforce development.

The organiser of the Proposed Section on Chronic Diseases Dr. Iveta Rajnicova-Nagyova participated in the EUPHA conference 2006 Preparation meeting held in June 2006 in Montreux with aim to understand better the work of the EUPHA bodies. This meeting was very important also because of exchange of information and discussions with presidents of existing EUPHA sections.

The mission and aims of the EUPHA in general and the proposed EUPHA Section on Chronic Diseases in particular were promoted at the 2nd conference of the Slovak Public Health Association (SAVEZ) held in Kosice, Slovakia, 21-22 September 2006.

During the whole year 2006 the group members of the Proposed EUPHA Section on Chronic Diseases were in e-mail contact with aim to know each other better. They were exchanging information on professional background, research interests and publications.

Section on public mental health

This initiative was developed by Prof Jutta Lindert, University of Ludwigsburg, Germany and Prof Gunnar Tellnes, Norway. The initiative is supported by 45 public health experts. After a meeting on the last EUPHA conference in Graz, it was decided to constitute a scientific committee to support the launching of the section and to develop a programme for the next three years. It was agreed to meet in London at the former working place of Prof. Jutta Lindert, at Queen Mary`s &The Barts, Newham Centre for Mental Health. Four mental health experts from different backgrounds (Psychiatry, health promotion, Public Health, epidemiology, psychology) met in February for a two-day meeting in London. The session was open to everybody, who was at the Graz meeting and previously had said to be interested in the work of the session. In the aftermath of the meeting the minutes were written by Jutta Lindert and were circulated in the group. After approval, the minutes were send to the EUPHA office. Jutta Lindert exchanged the ongoing work with Jürgen Schefftlein from the EC. She was invited to participate in the ongoing work of the European Commission on Mental Health and kept Jürgen Schefftlein informed about the EUPHA activities in the Mental Health field.

At the Montreux conference, a breakfast meeting was organised with speakers which contributed from different fields of expertise covering different regions of Europe (Austria, Germany, Norway, Serbia).

Section on injury prevention and safety promotion

This initiative was developed by Dr.philos Johan Lund and Prof.Gunnar Tellnes from the University of Oslo, Norway, together with Prof. Lucie Laflamme from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden and Dr Mathilda Sengögle from the Austrian Safety Board. The initiative is supported by 35 public health experts. Both the World Health Organization and the European Commission have recognised injury prevention and safety promotion as a major priority and have developed policy frameworks,

action plans and public health programmes in order to strengthen injury and violence prevention activities within the region. Until recently EUPHA has not been involved in these activities. This is why we are pleased with the establishment of this section.

The aim of the section is to enhance communication in injury and violence prevention and safety promotion across Europe, including by promoting the dissemination of research results and the exchange of knowledge of evidence based practice in injury and violence. In particular, the section will:

- a) increase awareness of injury and violence prevention and safety promotion in the broader public health community,
- b) increase the visibility of issues related to injury and violence prevention beyond the community of injury researcher,
- c) strengthen the links between researchers, policy makers and practitioners;
- d) support the dissemination of research results and their implementation into practice.

In addition, the section will:

- o Disseminate knowledge on registration/surveillance methods throughout Europe as well as effective preventive measures (in regard to great variation in injury rates across the European Region).
- o Discuss the development and standardisation of injury registration methods in the health care system throughout Europe.
- o Study risk factors and their mechanisms of influence as well as identification of effective preventive measures for influencing attitudes, behaviour, structures and culture with regard to injuries and safety.
- o Formulate advocacy messages on injury and violence prevention and safety promotion to European and national authorities in order to reduce this heavy burden on the health system in all European countries.
- o Exchange views between key stakeholders from the scientific and policy making communities.
- o Co-operate with other sections within EUPHA and with other relevant European agencies and stakeholder in injury prevention.

Section on environment related diseases

This initiative was developed by Dr. Peter van den Hazel of the Public Health Services Gelderland Midden, Netherlands. The initiative is supported by 38 public health experts. This year the section organised a workshop at the EUPHA conference in Montreux called 'New roads for Environmental Health'. At the annual meeting, the future activities were discussed. For the upcoming year, secretarial support of the section is guaranteed by The Netherlands Association For Community Health Services.

Visibility

Active visibility

For the first year, EUPHA has taken up a proactive attitude to increasing its visibility. One good example was the initiative of our president to write an official EUPHA letter to the FIFA World Cup games and to FIFA complaining about the incomplete anti-smoking policy during the World Cup Football. The letter was well received by FIFA, showing that a big public health association like EUPHA, will be taken seriously.

Another example was the publicity banner that was put in the parliamentary calendar of the European Parliament. The banner announced the upcoming EUPHA conference as well as general information on EUPHA. Together with this, the chair and 3 co-chairs of the EP committee on health were included in the EJPH distribution list.

Website

The EUPHA website was further developed in 2006. The EUPHA database was updated again and – at the same time – the use of the database was expanded. This database increased the networking skills of EUPHA. As of 2007, all EUPHA conferences will be registered by EUPHA centrally. The success of the online abstract submission system was confirmed again this year. The website was

regularly updated. The average amount of website hits over the last 12 months have been just over 130'000 per month (in 2005, the average amount per month was 100'000).

Networking

The networking activities of EUPHA increased again in 2006. The EUPHA president visited a number of conferences, among which the annual ASPHER conference, the IUHPE meeting in Hungary and the annual meeting of the Norwegian Public Health Association.

Furthermore, intensive talks with the European Commission (DG Sanco and DG Research) and the WHO Regional Office for Europe were organised.

Electronic newsletter

The electronic newsletter was set up by EUPHA office late 2005. The newsletter contains information on EUPHA, upcoming conferences and interesting publications. The content is set up based on information received at EUPHA office. In the first 7 months of 2006, the newsletter was sent out on a monthly basis to just under 4000 public health experts throughout the world. After July, the understaffing of EUPHA office hampered the production of the newsletter. We hope that next year, the newsletter will be re-installed again.

Obesity report

Following the successful elaboration of the first EUPHA statement: "10 Statements on the Future of Public Health in Europe" published in 2004, EUPHA has been working on a new report on "How to tackle the obesity epidemic in Europe". This report has a different format than the 2004 statement, as it provides general guidelines on how to tackle the epidemic by providing examples on obesity prevention from several European countries. A first draft of this report was presented in a workshop at the Montreux conference.

Reorganisation of EUPHA

The Council of Past presidents of EUPHA, co-ordinated by Prof. Walter Ricciardi, has been very active in formulating a proposal to reorganise EUPHA, which was discussed in detail with the Executive Council and the section presidents in the June meeting. The reorganisation has been discussed and supported by the EUPHA Governing Council.

EUPHA 2006: COLLABORATIONS

- ASPHER: Association of schools of public health in the European region. The collaboration with ASPHER increased this year. Both the president and the manager of EUPHA were at the ASPHER annual conference. Several meetings with the ASPHER Executive Board were organised throughout the year. Plans for future collaboration were discussed. At the EUPHA conference, ASPHER is organising an Executive Board meeting, two workshops as well as an ASPHER stand.
- EHMA: European Health Management Association. Official links have been established several years ago. EHMA will appoint a new executive director shortly, after which the collaboration will be taken up again.
- IUHPE: International Union of Health Promotion and Education. Contacts are organised through our section on health promotion. Both our president and the president of the EUPHA section on health promotion were present at their European Conference in Budapest. More intense collaboration is being discussed.
- European Forum of Primary Health Care: This forum was created last year. EUPHA is represented in this forum by Dr Diana Delnoij of our Executive Council. The Forum organised a meeting (open) during the EUPHA conference. A discussion on associate membership of EUPHA is currently ongoing.
- EACH: European Association for Community Health has joint EUPHA last year.
- APHA: The American Public Health Association. The contacts between APHA and EUPHA are good though limited as we usually only meet at the annual meeting of the World Federation of Public Health Associations.

WFPHA:	World Federation of Public Health Associations. The WFPHA organised its tri-annual congress in August 2006 in Brazil. Our past president, Prof. Gunnar Tellnes, was a contact person before this meeting on behalf of EUPHA. Dr Asib Nasim, president of the WFPHA, was an active participant at the Montreux conference.
European Union:	EUPHA has had extensive contacts with the Directorate General of Public Health and with the Directorate General of Research of the European Commission. At the Montreux conference, plans to increase the interaction between Research and Sanco have been discussed.
ECDC:	European Centre for Diseases Control. EUPHA is a member on the ECDC advisory board. Dr Ruth Gelletlie is EUPHA's representative on this board.
WHO/EURO:	World Health Organisation/ Regional Office for Europe. The collaboration with WHO/EURO has intensified with 2 visits to the WHO/EURO of a EUPHA delegation (December 2005 and January 2006). The collaboration includes a regular WHO column in the EJPH, which now includes the WHO/EURO logo.
WHO/Headquarter:	WHO Headquarters was represented at the Montreux conference. With the help of our past president, Prof. Alena Petrakova, and the EUPHA conference being organised in Switzerland, the collaboration with WHO/HQ has increased. The conference participants had the possibility to visit the experts at WHO/HQ as a preconference activity. WHO/HQ also organised an extra meeting on knowledge management for public health.
WHO/PAHO:	WHO Pan-American Health Organisation. There have been increased exchange of information with WHO/PAHO. The list of publications from WHO/PAHO are included in our electronic newsletter.

EUPHA 2006: SPONSORS

- Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research (NIVEL)
- SOROS foundation/Open Society Institute
- DEZA – Swiss agency for development and cooperation
- IUMSP – institute of social and preventive medicine
- Swiss Society for Public Health
- Karolinska Institutet
- Swedish Research Council
- European Commission
- Netherlands Public Health Federation
- UK Faculty of Public Health
- Swiss Federal Office of Public Health
- Health Promotion Switzerland
- Swiss Commission for UNESCO
- Swiss school of Public Health +
- Swiss Institute for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Problems
- Santé publique – Etat de Vaud
- Swiss Health Observatory
- H+ Swiss hospital association
- Swiss Cancer League
- Swiss Society of Pharmacy
- SBK – Swiss Association of nurses and male nurses
- FMH – Swiss Medical Association
- Merck, Sharpe and Dome
- Nestlé
- AstraZeneca
- Sanofi Aventis
- Wyeth
- Sanofi Pasteur MSD

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