

EUPHANxt Flash

FOR YOUR CAREER IN PUBLIC HEALTH

March 2015

Dear EUPHANxt subscribers,

Welcome to the fourth issue of our EUPHANxt Flash newsletter. We, as EUPHANxt, aim to further your career through different kinds of activities and to provide you with the tools and network necessary for it. We very much encourage and welcome your feedback, comments and questions. So feel free to write us and provide us with your input!

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1) EUPHANxt News

Since February, Tjede Funk has joined the EUPHANxt team. Together with the other coordinators she aims to make EUPHANxt's work as successful and efficient as possible. She is looking forward to the months to come.

2) EPH Conference of 2015

The next EPH Conference will be held from 14th to 17th October 2015 in Milan, Italy. The main topic of this year is:



Health in Europe – from global to local. Policies, methods and practices.

The abstract submission is now open! All students and young professionals are invited to submit their abstract until the 1st May 2015. Further information about the conference can be found [here](#).

Young investigators (under the age of 35) have the possibility to win the Ferenc Bojan Award. This awards honours the combination of both abstract and presentation, evaluated by a scientific committee. So we encourage you to submit your abstract.

We will keep you updated about any activities or workshops that are organised by EUPHANxt during the conference.

3) Questionnaire for EUPHANxt Subscribers

We currently have about 850 subscribers! This is a big increase during the last years. We would like to know a bit more about our subscribers and we want you to evaluate our work. This will help us to improve our work as well as to make the discussed topics more appealing to you. This is why EUPHANxt developed a questionnaire for you. We strongly encourage you to participate: The more input, the better.

The questionnaire is very short and will only take you about 5 minutes to answer. You can find the link to the questionnaire [here](#).

4) Master's Programme at University Medical Centre Groningen (UMCG), the Netherlands

The UMCG offers a Master Programme in Clinical and Psychosocial Epidemiology (CPE). The English-taught (2-year) advanced research master focuses on the reciprocal relationship between the psychological condition of adults and children and their physical health.

It is an interesting individually oriented master program with excellent career opportunities (students can opt for a 3-year PhD position once they have finished the program).

In addition full scholarships are available. The focus on mental health is unique and makes the program potentially interesting for students with a wide range of backgrounds such as Psychology, Health, (Bio)Medical or Pharmaceutical Sciences and (Medical) Biology.

For more information, please have a look at www.groningenbiomed.com/cpe.

5) Further your Career

a. Studentship Opportunity in Glasgow

We are happy to inform you about the studentship opportunity offered by the University of Glasgow.

University of Glasgow is advertising the following studentship which will commence on 1 October 2015 and be based in the MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit:

Routinely collected sexual health data from young people in Glasgow: integrity, data linkage and use in intervention development

The deadline for applications is **Friday 27 March 2015**. General enquiries regarding the programme and application procedure should be directed to Alexis Merry (Alexis.Merry@glasgow.ac.uk). Details can be found [here](#).

b. Postdoc in epidemiology and public health

[The Unit of Health Promotion Research](#), Department of Public Health, University of Southern Denmark, Campus Esbjerg, invites applications for a position as postdoc within the areas of epidemiology and public health to be filled as soon as possible. The period of employment as postdoc will be limited to 3 years.

The successful applicant will be expected to conduct and publish internationally competitive research in the fields of epidemiology and public health, e.g. infectious diseases or environmental epidemiology.

Further information can be obtained from the Head of the Research Unit, professor Arja R. Aro, telephone +45 6550 4157, mobile +45 6011 1874 , e-mail araro@health.sdu.dk or from the Head of the Department of Public Health, professor Jesper Bo Nielsen, telephone +45 6550 4034, email jbnielsen@health.sdu.dk. The link to this position can be found [here](#).

Deadline for application: **9 March 2015**

6) Interview with Viola Amprino, participant of the 14th World Congress on Public Health

The 14th World Congress on Public Health, organised by the World Federation of Public Health Associations, took place from 11th to 15th February 2015 in Kolkata (India). In total, around 2000 delegates from 86 countries participated. The title (and main theme) of the Congress was "Healthy People – Healthy Environment". EUPHA was represented by its president, Prof. Martin McKee. This Congress was a great occasion for European students and young professionals interested in Public Health for meeting colleagues and experts from all over the World, sharing experiences and for networking. Viola Amprino, resident

physician in Public Health at the University of Torino (Italy) and EUPHANxt subscriber, flew to Kolkata to present a poster paper on “How the news about public health are reported by the top five Italian newspapers”. We asked her to share her experience:

Viola, why did you decide to participate at the 14th World Congress on Public Health?

Since I was a medical student I have been interested in global health. I have been to Africa many times as a volunteer for different NGOs. In November 2014 I attended the 7th EPH Conference in Glasgow and I enjoyed the stimulating environment that fostered the exchange of ideas and experiences. I wanted to experience this at a global level, bringing my background in European Public Health. This is why I decided to participate at the 14th World Congress on Public Health.

Which were the main topics discussed during the Congress?

During the whole Congress we discussed the need for a global change in terms of both health policies as well as efficacy and effectiveness of public health interventions.

Moreover, other interesting issues were discussed during individual Congress sessions. For example, it was reported that the three Millennium Developed Goals related to infant mortality were not achieved, and that climate change led to seven million deaths worldwide in 2012.

I also really liked the session about Ebola. During this session we talked about the lack of common global actions in the field of prevention of communicable diseases. We further spoke about the willingness to implement and strengthen a Global Framework that includes key concepts such as Governance, Prevention, Promotion, and Capacity building.

Besides, oral and poster presentations gave the opportunity to share local experiences. “Think globally and act locally!” was one of the best sentences that I heard during the Congress.

Were there activities, sessions and workshops specifically addressed to the young generations of public health professionals?

Yes! On 9-10th February the third Student Meet on Public Health (ISMOPH 2015) was held, during which workshops and debates on multiple aspects of Public Health were organised. Students from all over the world and with different study background (medicine, nursing, veterinary medicine, social sciences) took part in this event. One of the most interesting sessions of this meeting was focused on research methodology. Editors of relevant public health journals explained “how to write a paper”, while trained statisticians educated the participants about the different kinds of scientific studies and basic statistical methods useful for analysing a population sample.

In a workshop organized by WHO-SEARO on health determinants, the concept of "Health in All Policies" and the motto "One for all and all for Health" (the title of the 9th EPH Conference in Vienna 2016, editor’s note) were discussed, stressing the importance of including health in non-health-related decisions and policies.

Which are the “take home messages” of the 14th World Congress on Public Health?

The final “call for action” summed up very well all the main messages of the Congress:

- 1) “Health cannot and should not be purchased for the rich but rather a human right of all”, so there is the need to make efforts and work on the determinants of health.
- 2) We need to invest in renewable energy and try to change certain materials such as highly polluting coal.
- 3) All participants emphasized the fact that non-communicable diseases are now one of the main Public Health concerns. Unfortunately, in both developing countries and in developed ones, the economic crisis is slowing the implementation of “community action to influence exercise and lifestyle and to control tobacco, alcohol, obesity, poor dental health, chemical exposures and the occupational environment”.

Finally, in addition to these messages, I brought back with me the mascot "Chetak", taken from Indian mythology, that was given as a present to all the young Public Health professionals, and represents the spirit of the young generation: "Young professionals need to be innovative, have leadership skills and the ability to take challenges on the one hand and be guided by the wisdom of their forefathers on the other." But above all, "This has to be wrapped in the solemnity of the service to the society that will translate into a powerful world".

7) EUPHANxt’s Informal Internship Programme

We continue to plan an Informal Internship Programme for our subscribers. The goal is to put students and young professionals interested in doing an internship in a public health related field in contact with relevant European public health professionals. In our first [EUPHANxt Flash](#) issue we published a short experience report by Sophie Baird who did an internship at the Kosice Institute for Society and Health (KISH) in Kosice, Slovakia with our help. For further questions or enquiries regarding the programme please email us at info.euphanxt@eupha.org.

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