

## Minutes

### ***Join the Network “Ethics in Public Health”, 04.11.2017 (13:20-14:10)***

#### Present:

Peter Schröder-Bäck (president), Els Maeckelberghe (vice-president), Azalea Thomson, Noor Jaber-Chehayeb, Kathy McColl, Angela Osterheider, Christine Hill, Farhang Tahzib, William Sherlaw, Katarzyna Byszek, Tamara Schloemer, Elena Petelos, Caroline Vass, Vasco Ricoca Peixoto, Jim Miller, Maria Palianopoulo, Romy Lauer, Mirjam Rodella Sapia, Darren Shickle, Günter Pfaff, Marco Barbeta, Carlo Favaretti, Arif Azad, Josephine Jackisch, Marija Jevtić

#### 1. Welcome & Round of introduction

Peter Schröder-Bäck (president) and Els Maeckelberghe (vice president) welcomed all participants at the JTN meeting that is the annual section meeting. Participants shortly introduced themselves. The agenda and aim of the meeting was to review the activities of the ongoing conference in Stockholm, and to collect ideas for Ljubljana 2018, Marseilles 2019; and to elect a president and vice president for the EUPHA section “Ethics in Public Health” (hereafter: the section). Further agenda points were steering committee of the section, the topic of a “law” within or outside the scope of the section, and a report from the Council of Europe. The agenda was accepted.

#### 2. Review of activities (incl. EPH conference 2017)

##### *2.1 Conference 2017*

Given some teams that had started to write proposals for the Stockholm conference did not succeed in submitting a proposal and two further proposals for workshops were not accepted in the review process, the section co-organised three activities that all had taken place (shortly) prior to the JTN.

- Round table: The Moral Mandate of Public Health - Back to Basics? (UK PHF with ETH), Thu, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00-10:30.
- Skills building seminar: Conquering the mountain: writing an institutional review board proposal? (with EUPHAnxt), Sat. Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:10-11:10,
- Workshop: The cutting edge of Health Technology Assessment: Information and Communication Technologies? (HTA section with ETH); Sat, Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 11:40-13:10.

The impression of the three activities and the feedback received by then regarding the activities was overall very positive.

## 2.2 Section related publication

As update on further activities, Els reported on the invitation she had received for contributing to the special issue of the EJPH regarding the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EUPHA. Together with Peter, she co-authored a report reflecting on the activities of the section in the last > 10 years.<sup>1</sup>

## 2.3 Collaboration with UK PHF

The UK Public Health Faculty is preparing a workshop on ethics for the MERH 2018 congress, that is co-organised by EUPHA. The section supports the workshop preparation of the UK PHF and in case of successful submission of the proposal would act as supporting organiser of that workshop.

## 3.3 EUPHA internal advice

Els reported that the section updated, in collaboration with EUPHA office, the CODE OF GOOD EUPHA PRACTICE FOR THE COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS AND COMMERCIAL CONTRIBUTORS. Furthermore, the section drafted, in collaboration with EUPHA office, the CODE OF GOOD EPH Conference Foundation PRACTICE FOR THE COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS AND COMMERCIAL CONTRIBUTORS

All activities of the section in the past year received the support of the section members present.

### 3. Elections: (Vice) President

Given the last elections of president and vice president of the section as three years ago, a regular election for the next three years had to take place. Peter Schröder-Bäck as president and Els Maeckelberghe as Vice President were elected by acclamation for the next three years and thus re-appointed by the section, represented through members present at the annual meeting/JTN.

### 4. Steering Committee & Pillars

Peter suggests that the following members of the section are representatives to the EUPHA pillars, as in the past:

- Els: research,
- Farhang Tahzib: practice,
- Peter: policy.

This sharing of tasks is also agreed to continue, although Peter stated that the activities of the pillars and the role of the section therein is currently not too clear and active representation not requested.

As in past meetings, Peter encouraged section members to get involved in the section as members of a “steering group” of the section (main task: supporting the section in preparing the conferences, being involved together with the president and vice president in matters regarding the coordination of the section; more concrete tasks: to be defined). The section steering group

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<sup>1</sup> Maeckelberghe E, Schröder-Bäck P (2017) Ethics in Public Health: Call for Shared Moral Public Health Literacy. European Journal of Public Health 27(Suppl. 4): 49-51. <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckx154>

consists of the president, the vice president and can include individual other members of the section (at the same time full members of EUPHA).

[Directly after the JTN meeting, Caroline Vass (UK PHF) volunteered as SG member and was appointed by the president and vice president for 3 years].

## 5. Planning Ljubljana 2018

Ideas for the conference 2018 and the organization of workshops / roundtables were brainstormed. Peter informed the group of the input given prior to the meeting by section member Andrea Buron (Teaching ethics in public health in a useful manner; RRI - Responsible Research and Innovation). Further themes were discussed:

- 1) Public Health Research Ethics: different standards.
  - a. Els would take the lead, William and Kathy are interested to be involved again (and build on work from earlier this year and preparations of Stockholm).
- 2) Migrant Health (potentially request collaboration with respective section)
- 3) Teaching ethics
- 4) Resource Allocation / Prioritisation, maybe example: Hepatitis (access to health care)
- 5) NGO's and ethical regulations
- 6) What do practitioners want from Ethic(i)s(ts)?
- 7) Quarantine and its different perspectives (potentially collaboration with Infectious disease section).
- 8) Child Autonomy

Sheets with most of these themes (1-6) circulated and people 'subscribed' to the themes. Peter will email those subscribed in November 2017, still, and coordinate with the steering group the building of teams who collaborate on preparing workshops/ roundtables for 2018. All section members are also invited to participate! Please write to Peter who will team up other parties interested with the groups that were built during the JTN. Section members are informed via these minutes.

There were no ideas / initiatives for pre-conferences.

## 6. Marseilles 2019

Peter highlighted that the theme for the 2019 was known now and included the ethical concept of solidarity: "Building bridges for solidarity and PH". Peter would write to the chair of that conference and the EUPHA office to offer support for the thematic scoping of the conference from the perspective and with the knowledge of the section.

## 7. Law and ETH

There was the discussion brought forward in the recent past if the section shall also open to "law themes". Most section members were not in favour of this – but rather to stay focussed on ethics. Darren Shickle proposes to include, in principle, aspects of law and ethics under the heading of "jurisprudence" to the thematic scope of the section. In short, the section will keep its focus on ethics and will support – if requested – the building of a new section on "law" if there is such an initiative. For the time being, themes on "jurisprudence" and other normative topics that encompass ethics *and* law are of course invited to be proposed for workshops / roundtables within the section.

8. Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO) & CoE

Elena Petelos reported from an International Conference organised by the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO) and the Council of Europe, in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Oviedo convention and its relevance for the sector health and health research.

9. Any other business & closing

Peter informed the section members present that minutes of this meeting would be circulated via the mailman-distribution list, members who subscribed to a theme on the circulating sheets would be additionally emailed and the steering group will coordinate building teams for developing workshops / rountables etc. for Ljubljana 2018. First ideas shall be presented by Peter during the "section council" in Utrecht in February 2018, as usual. Then, collaboration with other sections can further materialise as well.

Peter thanked all participants for joining the meeting. More people than ever before joined, probably due to the special time slot that is not in parallel to other JTN meetings. Peter thanks, also on behalf of Els, for the trust to continue as president and vice president for another 3 years, and closed the meeting.

*Peter Schröder-Bäck, Els Maeckelberghe*  
22.11.2017