Report of the health promotion section meeting 2014

Activities of the section at the Glasgow conference

The section was a co-organiser of the pre-conference “Adaptation of health promotion and disease prevention interventions for migrant & ethnic minority populations: policy, practice and research” held Wednesday 19 November 2014 and Thursday 20 November 2014. The pre-conference was organised by EUPHA’s Migrant and Ethnic Health Section in partnership with EUPHA’s Chronic Diseases and Health Promotion Sections and in collaboration with Scottish Health Migration and Ethnicity Research Strategy Steering Group, West of Scotland Health and Ethnicity Network, and Edinburgh Ethnicity and Health Research Group. The aims of the pre-conference were

1. In the tradition of past Migrant and Ethnic Health Section pre-conferences, with reference to the theme of the meeting, to provide an overview of national policy on migration, ethnicity and health in the hosting nation (Scotland).

2. To share experience on the pre-conference theme, with the intention of furthering a common agenda across European countries and EUPHA sections.

The pre-conference was very well attended with about 70 participants and the presentations and discussions were of high quality. From the health promotion section Celia Watt gave a presentation on “Targeting ethnic minority populations for oral health improvement” and Liliana Gomes presented her research on “Developing healthy eating habits among ethnic minorities in Portugal”. Christiane Stock contributed to the round table discussion at the end of the pre-conference “The way forward for policy, practice and research.”

The section workshop “Interactive technologies and health promotion” was just borderline not accepted this year by the Scientific Committee, but all abstracts were presented in different sessions.

Fri 21.11. 10:40-12:10 Claudia van der Heijde, The Netherlands: Internet based health promotion for university students in the Netherlands.

Sat 22.11. 9:00-10:30 How can health promotion institutions/services effectively use social media in health communication? Guido Nöcker, Germany.

Sat 22.11. 9:00-10:30 Curbing access constrains to health promotion programs with a web portal. Luis A Saboga Nunes, Portugal.

Section meeting at the Glasgow conference

At the section meeting the section discussed as a main issue from the EUPHA strategy and action plan how to involve the next generation best into the section work and processes. It was suggested to use EUPHAnxt to approach young people. The aim should be to open the floor for young people to present their work and research and to create networking opportunities to them. Creating networks and getting
into relationship with more experienced people in the field would be a natural interest among young people and should be encouraged and enabled. Potential channels for this could be discussions via the internet. It was also suggested that providing roles in the section to young people would foster their participation. Another suggestion was to use the database of members and to conduct a mapping exercise on the work areas and competences of the members in order to enable better networking between the members.

**Section workshops and cooperation with other sections**

The section presidents are in progress of cooperation with the mental health section to organise a common workshop for the Milano conference.

**Contribution to EUPHA pillars**

The section presidents cooperated with the practice pillar and support a potential project to develop a public health practice/project database. The health promotion section could be a pilot area for such a project.

**Main goals for 2015**

Increase visibility of health promotion at the Milano conference – the aim is to have again a track entitled “health promotion” in the programme and to invite a health promotion keynote. Further the section aims at contributing to the conference with 1-2 workshops.

Strengthen the cooperation with other sections – The aim is to submit a workshop on cooperation with mental health promotion.

Strengthen the cooperation and exchange with IUHPE

Strengthen the activities to involve young EUPHA members (EUPHAnxt)