

Public Health Practice & Policy Section

Newsflash 3

5/8/2017

Dear Section members,

Since the Vienna Conference last November we have been working hard developing our Section Strategy and capacity, setting up an Advisory Board representing political and policy scholarship, policy and management practice, and EU policies and developments. During the last month, we have been preparing concrete activities for the next Conference in Stockholm.

This Newsflash wishes to draw your attention to our **call for 4-5 Section Work group leaders**, preferably well networked, to inform and assist us in achieving our Section strategy 2017-2020. Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions at m.bekker@fm.ru.nl!

Greetings from your Section Presidents Marleen and Sofia



Colofon

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Section strategy and Advisory Board

Advisory Board

In order to strengthen our Section's capacity, networks, and strategy implementation, we have set up a Section Advisory Board advising the section presidency. We happily introduce to you the members of this Advisory Board:

1. Silvio Brusaferrò, professor of Public Hygiene at Università degli Studi di Udine (Italy), EUPHA Practice Pillar lead.

2. David Stuckler, professor of Political Economy and Sociology, University of Oxford, and EUPHA Policy Pillar lead.

3. Georgios Margetidis, Scientific Project Officer EU/CHAFEA (Consumer, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency).

Three core tracks

Our Section focuses on urgent issues in health (system) governance, investigating underlying interactive processes between different

stakeholders, political playing fields and a specific set of process management and networking skills. In a first online meeting, useful suggestions were agreed to select 3 topics, which we will track during the 3 year policy cycle until 2020. These three core 'Section tracks' are:

1. Policies for the **prevention of chronic diseases** including efficiency
2. **Health system performance and sustainability** including European Semester impact
3. **Innovations in health governance** including HiAP and Whole of Society.

Within these three section tracks we will offer methods and skills-building workshops. See Stockholm plans below.

Activities

Concrete activities for achieving the strategy are:

- a. Attracting more active participants in **work groups** for the PHPP section;

b. Communications

- c. Intensify **joint workshops and events** with other Sections and external partner organisations;
- d. **Increase policymakers' participation**, for instance by mobilising workshops at Health Forum Gastein;
- e. Explore opportunities and conditions for organising a **satellite Section Conference on Health (system) politics, policy and governance** at the end of this term 2017-2020.

Call for work group leaders!

To help achieve our Section goals we are looking for 4-5 enthusiastic work group leaders who will assist us in preparing conference events, setting up the organisation of a Satellite Conference and generating member feedback for improvement and responsiveness to needs.

Your participation will offer you a broad European network and possible partnerships in touch with the latest developments at the European level.

Please, send your contact details to m.bekker@fm.ru.nl and we will get in touch!

Looking back: EPH Vienna 2016 Section events

Section events

The PHPP Section offered five workshops at the Vienna Conference 2016, of which two are preconference workshops.

1. **Enhancing evidence-informed decision-making to support resilient and sustainable health systems in Europe.**

This was a follow up preconference on last year's preconference, organized by the Consumer, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFEA) with the support of the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe), Health Services Research (HSR) Europe, EUPHA Section on HSR, EUPHA Section on Public Health Practice and Policy and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. There were altogether 24 presentations from distinguished experts both scientifically and in the field, before more than 100 participants. A report is in preparation.

2. **Governance for Health and Health Systems.**

This pre-conference workshop was organized by the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, WHO Regional Office for Europe, with our Section support. A small but dedicated number of participants interactively applied principles of the TAPIC framework for Good Governance to their practices (Transparency Accountability, Participation, Integrity and policy Capacity). See: <http://www.euro.who.int/en/about-us/partners/observatory/news/news/2016/01/good-governance-for-better-health-policies>. This relatively simple framework proved to be an adequate instrument in increase understanding of governance processes

3. **Health for All: Health policy making for refugees and other migrants: context, capacity, competences**

This 90 min Conference workshop was organized by the Sections on Migrant and Ethnic Minority Health,

Public Mental Health, and Public Health Practice and Policy, and focused specifically on dealing adequately with the capricious decision-making process. About 100 participants discussed the latest evidence from the MIPEX study. See: <https://bluehub.jrc.ec.europa.eu/catalogue/dataset/0052>, and national studies from Norway, the Netherlands, and Germany. See our webpage.

4. **Working with society: strategies and instruments addressing the governance challenge.**

This 90 min conference workshop was organized by the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies WHO Europe and our Section.

The main focus of this workshop was on civil society organizations and their conditions and capacity for (co-) steering society.

5. **Health assessments in support of decision-making**

This 90 min conference workshop was organized by the Sections HIA; Health Services Research; Public Health Economics; Public Health Practice & Policy, and focused on exploring the role of different types of health assessments for evidence-based governance and policy-making, acknowledging the existence of “evidence-centered” networks and initiatives (which so far do not focus on health assessments), and, relatedly, to identify training needs and opportunities.

Section Meeting

The EUPHA PHPP Section meeting at the EPH Conference in Vienna, Austria, took place on the 11th of November 2016. Participants from 7 countries discussed the Section Profile and Strategy, including communications and online platforms. Ideas arising from the discussion included the possibility of fostering connections between researchers interested in policy and practice. This includes researchers from outside the European region.

Training and resources on how to engage with politicians and on how to get evidence into policy and practice were also mentioned as a possible future activity offered by the session. This training could be offered as MOOCs or by other platforms of distant learning. Other issues discussed during the meeting included implementation issues and pharmaceutical policy issues.

Finally, Marleen Bekker was elected Section President. Sofia Ribeiro was elected Vice-President.

Looking forward to EPH Stockholm 2017

Nov 1-4, 2017 the Stockholm conference will take place. Besides the free submission of abstracts for oral presentations and workshops by individual conference participants, the Sections also develop their own workshops, often in collaboration between two or more Sections.

Last February 15-16 the Section Council, consisting of all Section Presidents and EUPHA Office, met in Utrecht

in order to evaluate the Vienna events and procedures and start prepare for the next Conference.

Our Section last week has collaboratively submitted seven workshop proposals addressing the three Section core tracks and including round tables and a skills building workshop. Four of them are following up on last year’s events on evidence-informed policymaking;

migrant healthcare policymaking; HIA and policymaking; and working with society. The other three include workforce and leadership; lobbying and public affairs; and natural experiments for policy evaluation.

We will inform you of acceptance by mid-June. Also a Preconference event is in preparation. We will send out a Pre-announcement in June.

Thank you for your attention!