

Public Mental Health Conference
Annual Meeting (online)
Wednesday, 14th October 2020, 1:15 PM
Meeting minutes

Opening

Prof. Dr. Jutta Lindert opened the meeting and gave her thanks to the attendees for participating in the online conference.

Introduction

Every attendee shortly introduced themselves and stated their profession and research field of interest.

Presentation

Jutta Lindert gave an overview of the section activities in 2019 and 2020. She shared a presentation which included a description of two studies, COPEERS and COCARE, she is currently working on together with members of the PMH section. Both studies investigate mental health during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. She encouraged the attendees to participate in these studies if interested. Interested persons should contact Jutta to evaluate cooperation possibilities.

Serving the EUPHA Public Mental Health Section

Proposals on how to serve the Public Mental Health Section committee were presented. Possible duties are e.g. social media activities, preparing summer school or do a podcast or webinar about suitable themes, or as member of the Steering Committee, or as vice-president.

Steering Committee

The requirements for serving as steering committee members were proposed. Its members should be balanced in gender and cover different disciplines and different countries.

Additionally, members should have participated in the EUPHA (European Public Health Association) conference (at least three times in the past five years) and in Public Mental Health section activities (at least in three annual meetings). They should actively have participated in the Public Mental Health -workshops (submitted at least one paper).

Vice Presidents

The requirements for serving as vice-presidents were proposed. Vice-presidents should be balanced in gender and cover different disciplines and different countries. Vice –presidents should be experienced in participating in the EUPHA (European Public Health Association) conferences (at least three times during the past five years) and in public Mental Health section activities (at least four times). They should have participated actively in PMH-workshops (submitted at least one workshop in cooperation with the PMH-Section president / vice-presidents).

Additionally, the vice-presidents - in close cooperation with the PMH section president - should have served in preparing the PMH Summer School and the PMH bi-annual conference.

Outlook 2021

Plans for 2021 include planning of workshops and contrive the Summer School, as well as the annual meeting. Due to the actuality of the topic, papers about Public Mental Health and its relation to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic are planned. People interested to contribute should contact Jutta.

Leadership of the EUPHA PMH section

Prof. Dr. Lindert explained that she will step down as president of the Public Mental Health Section by the end of the year. Dr. Marija Jakubauskiene has been elected as new president for the PMH section. Johan Bilsen and Jutta Lindert will serve as vice-presidents. Prof. Mauro Carta, Dr. Johan Cacchia and Silvia Fiorescu will serve in the Steering Committee.

Future project suggestions for the EUPHA PMH section

The attendees had various suggestions for future projects/themes for workshops

The following topics were proposed:

- Mental health and social media (internet addiction, self-harm, ...)
- Mental health and the criminal justice system
- Mental health and behavioral dependencies (e.g. addictions, substance dependencies,...)
- PTSD (Posttraumatic Stress Disorder) and dependencies (especially in immigrants, ethnic minorities and refugees)
- Mental health and transdisciplinary approaches (social and environmental determinants, living conditions)
- Multimorbidity in relation to mental disorders
- Mental health and urban planning / architecture (healing spaces, ...)
- Public mental health: impact of neurosciences

Especially the interdisciplinary approach regarding mental health was met with approval. It was suggested as a possible leading theme for Summer School 2021. The possibility of inviting e.g. a philosopher as well as a neuroscientist would lead to an open and broad discussion on mental health issues.

If someone wants to organize a workshop around these topics for next EPH- or PMH-conference, or wants to participate in summer school activities, please contact the president or vice-presidents.

Conclusion

Prof. Dr. Lindert thanked everyone for a pleasant and productive meeting.

Future correspondence

E-Mail addresses were exchanged for future correspondence.

Attendees of the EUPHA PMH annual meeting, October 14th, 13.15-14.15

Dr. Jorge Arias de la Torre (King's College London, Department of Psychological Medicine)

Dr. Dorottya Árvai (Semmelweis University Budapest, Department of Public Health)

Prof. Gabriele Berg-Beckhoff (University of Southern Denmark, Unit for Health Promotion Research)

Prof. Johan Bilsen (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Head Mental Health and Wellbeing Research Group)

Dr. John Cachia (L-Università ta' Malta; Faculty of Medicine & Surgery)

Lourdes Cantarero (University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences)

Mauro G. Carta (University of Cagliari, Department of Public Health, Clinical and Molecular Medicine)

Afona Chernet (Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Department of Medicine)

Charlotte De Kock (Ghent University, Institute for Social Drug research)

Maria Alexandra Fretian (Bielefeld University, School of Public Health)

Dr. Anamul Haque (University of Dhaka, Department of Statistics)

Dr. Marija Jakubauskiene (Vilnius University)

Dr. Svetlana Jankovic (Institute of Public Health of Belgrade)

Marija Jevtic (University of Novi Sad, Department of Hygiene)

Dr. Selma Karabey (Istanbul University, Professor of Public Health)

Flavia Kolchraiber (Universidade Federal de São Paulo)

Rebecca Laes-Kushner (Policy Analyst)

Veta Lazarashvili (Ilia State University, Georgia, Director International Centre for Study of Migration and Health)

Sunwoo Lee (Charles University in Prague)

Prof. Dr. Jutta Lindert (University of Applied Sciences Emden/Leer)

Giuseppina Lo Moro (University of Turin)

Alessandro Morganti (Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering)

Puskar Pant (Yoga teacher at Patanjali Yogpeeth, Nepal)

Sebastián Patiño (Universidad de los Andes, Colombia)

Dr. Günter Pfaff (Protestant University Ludwigsburg)

Guilherme Queiroz

Syed Rahman (Karolinska Institutet, Department of Global Public Health)

Luis Filipe Roxo (Universidade NOVA de Lisboa)

Yara Shoman (University of Lausanne, Institute for Work and Health)

Matej Vinko (Head of the Public Mental Health Expert Group at National Institute of Public Health, Slovenia)

Prof. Dr. Frank Wieber (Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Professor of Public Health)

For the minutes

Sarah Marth