



# UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES

## SECTION FOR PSYCHIATRY

### ANNUAL REPORT 2015

#### **Introduction**

This annual report is the first report in a new format. The change is due to the advent of annual plans. The delegates of The UEMS Section of Psychiatry approve the annual plan. The annual plan is accounting for the progress made by the Section, so to speak. The layout of the annual report is similar to the annual plan.

#### **Internal matters**

#### **Preparing the Section for upcoming elections of President, Secretary and Treasurer**

Preparations went well and elections to the offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer as well as an additional Officer were conducted successfully during 2015. President Marc Hermans, Honorary Secretary Torsten B Jacobsen and Officer Thea Heeren were all reelected and are now serving their second and final term. Treasurer Maria Fe Bravo Ortiz is serving her first term.

#### **Draft and finalize the Communication Strategy of the Section as well as implementing the Communication Strategy**

The Sections Vision and Mission statement is now visible on the website [www.uemspsihiatry.org](http://www.uemspsihiatry.org). The communication strategy will follow the tracks laid down in the statement:

- *Contributing to the harmonization of professional standards in Europe*
- *Setting standards for education and learning across all stages of professional development in Europe*
- *Producing evidence based guidance on training and service related matters and*
- *Offering to Monitoring these standards*

The Section is visible on the internet through the website. The use of social media has not been fully implemented. However, interaction with other stakeholders has provided opportunities for dissemination of the work of the Section and the Standing Committee on Training (SCT). Papers on Training in Europe in collaboration with the European Psychiatric Association (EPA) are in preparation. Our president as well as our vice-presidents are giving presentations at the EPA congresses on the subject of training. The Section meetings include the visiting day in the hosting country. This day is also used for discussion on training issues. The basis for interaction is the standards and papers issued by the Section. The Section has issued two Newsletters and Press Release. The Press Release addressed the refugee crisis in Europe and was issued after the autumn

meeting in Berlin

### **Resolve the issue of substitution of officers in the case of absence**

The delegates have approved a document that resolves the issue of substitution of an officer. According to this document, the officers and the delegates are able to substitute an officer prior to the expiration of the officers' term. The document also states strict criteria for when the substitution is an option.

### **Job descriptions for all officers**

This is a point where the Section has not been successful. A debate is taking place on how the task is best accomplished. Instead of a more rigid job description, it could be more efficient that a "looser" framework better serves each office. It is in line with European tradition that those holding elected offices have some latitude in the way they execute their mandate.

### **Improve the administrative and secretarial power of the section and produce a revised budget for the increase in activity**

The delegates have approved a plan for increasing the weekly hours for our administrative and secretarial help. The Royal College of Psychiatry in London is still providing the Sections administrative and secretarial help through their office.

### **Follow up on the plan of revision of documents**

All Section documents have gone through a process of revision. This has led to a division of documents into three pools: The first pool are documents outside the scope of the new vision and mission statement. Those documents have been archived in the archive folder on the website. Then there are two pools documents up for revision. One pool of documents belongs to the SCT. The SCT has made a schedule for the updating these documents to present standard. Remaining are the last pool of documents belonging to the Section. A revision process has also been scheduled. For further information, please go to the website: [www.uemspychiatry.org](http://www.uemspychiatry.org)

## **External Matters**

### **Benchmark the improvement of our communication and collaboration with other organisations in European psychiatry and national psychiatric organisations.**

This heading covers an area that has not proven to be an essay task. The Section has no tangible evidence or bench markers that can show the improvement of our communication or collaboration.

The officers group can only provide our own opinion. We feel the Section is going in the right direction. In hindsight, we should have provided the benchmarkers in the annual plan. We feel it is a tremendously difficult task to do. To measure improvement in communication and collaboration is very difficult.

### **Advertise the work of the new standing committee on training.**

The process of measuring advertising is not easily done either. The officers are confident in providing you with assurance that it is going well.