



UEMS PSYCHIATRY SECTION NEWSLETTER

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Vision and Mission Statement of the UEMS Psychiatry Section

The purpose of the UEMS Section of Psychiatry is to promote the highest standard of care for people who are affected by mental health problems in Europe through postgraduate training and continuing medical education of psychiatrists.

The Section will achieve this by encouraging excellence in psychiatric education and training, from the undergraduate phase through to continuing professional development.

The Section conducts its work by:

- Contributing to the harmonisation 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

Standing Committee on Training

The latest meeting of the Standing Committee on Training (SCT) took place at the April meeting of the Section in Mechelen, Belgium.

The main business was to agree the Standards for Training in Psychiatry document before sending it to national psychiatric associations for final comments.

The UEMS Council has asked each Specialty Section to update its Standards for Training following a new format approved by the Council in 2013. The SCT produced the draft standards after a period of consultation and review of existing training standards that the Section has produced. We anticipate that the Section at our next meeting in Berlin in October will approve the final version for submission to the UEMS Council.

In preparation for the adoption of the Standards for Training in Psychiatry, the SCT will produce some tools that will help national associations and local training providers quality assure their programmes against the standards.

The other projects that the SCT will take forward include a revision of the pivotal Section paper, 'The Profile of a Psychiatrist'. The European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees (EFPT) has kindly offered to lead this revision and there was a workshop on this at the EFPT Forum in Porto in June.

After our next meeting in October, the SCT will oversee work to revise the influential European Framework for Competencies in Psychiatry document, making it ready to guide European psychiatry training through the next five years.

New Honorary Treasurer!

During the Section meeting in Mechelen, Dr Maria Fe Bravo Ortiz was elected as the new Honorary Treasurer of the Section. Dr Bravo Ortiz from Spain commented that she was honoured to have been elected for this post. The term of office for Honorary Treasurers is 4 years. Dr Bravo Ortiz pledged to carry out her duties with transparency and equity, especially at a time when financial issues are often at the forefront of discussions within the UEMS as a whole.



Spring 2015 Section meeting in Mechelen

In April 2015 delegates met in the picturesque town of Mechelen for the spring meeting of the Section. As well as electing a new Honorary Treasurer (see previous page), delegates approved the final version of the "Guidelines for the Recording and Monitoring of the Use of Involuntary Treatments in Psychiatric Practice in Europe" prepared by Dr Rachael Cullivan-Elliott and the Involuntary Treatment working group. This paper highlights the different definitions of involuntary treatments in Europe as well as the many different legislative systems that form the basis for clinical practice and the recording and monitoring of treatments. The guidelines propose that the recording and monitoring of involuntary treatments should be standardized so that reliable data can be collected to inform future practice.



Delegates were pleased to welcome Professor Alexey Pavlichenko to the meeting and received his presentation on challenges and perspectives in psychiatric training in Russia with interest (the presentation is available at: <http://uemspychiatry.org/meetings/previous-meetings/>). The presentation covered public perceptions of psychiatry in Russia, the undergraduate and postgraduate training systems in Russia and common teaching methods.

The meeting also provided an opportunity for delegates to consider the working methods of the Section: it was agreed that standard procedures for granting Section endorsement of documents produced by a third party should be established. In future any such requests will involve a peer review before endorsement is given. It was also agreed to establish guidelines for situations where an officer is unable to carry

out their duties and this will involve officers shadowing each other to ensure the smooth running of Section business.

During the meeting delegates agreed the wording of the Vision and Mission statement that forms the cornerstone of all the work undertaken by the Section. This statement can be found at the beginning of this newsletter and on the homepage of the website: www.uemspychiatry.org

Next meeting of the Section of Psychiatry - Berlin, October 2015

Officers and delegates are looking forward to the next meeting of the Section in Berlin from 15 to 17 October. Country hosts Fritz Hohagen and Roland Urban are preparing a visit to a local clinic and a programme of talks about the delivery of psychiatric training in Germany.

The Section meeting will include the election of the President, Honorary Secretary and Officer; Marc Hermans, Torsten Jacobsen and Thea Heeren will all be standing for a second term in these posts. The meeting will also include an update from the officers' meeting which took place in Zurich in July and delegates will be asked to approve the plan for work in 2016. Delegates will also be asked to consider establishing an internal finance oversight group to approve the Section's accounts and financial processes.

Delegates are also looking forward to the conference dinner which the hosts have arranged at the German Bundestag in the beautiful Reichstag building.



The Diary of a President



*Dr Marc Hermans,
UEMS Psychiatry Section
President*

At the end of June, the annual EFPT gathering took place in the city of Porto, the actual president's home base. Again I was surprised to see the enormous enthusiasm of our young colleagues. Organizing workshops, presentations and lectures within an invitingly vivid city seems to be the specialty of the EFPT. Dr. Brian Jacobs, representing the UEMS CAP Section gave an appreciated presentation on child and adolescent bipolar disorder.

Your servant organized a workshop on the *Profile of a Psychiatrist* document, to be revised by a number of EFPT trainees. Starting rather slowly, the discussion went on in a productive direction. Dr. Liene Berze, a trainee from Latvia, was the first to present herself as the one to take the lead. Some others joined her and I'm looking forward to the first draft of the revised document. This should be a document written by young colleagues, intended for the future.

Dr. Brian Jacobs and I were appointed as members of a jury for two sessions during which trainees were presenting their own work. Interesting enough, but perhaps more a task for the scientific associations' representatives.

Together with Dr. Andy Brittlebank, the colleagues of the CAP Section try to continue to develop a common program on training for both adult psychiatrists and CAP colleagues in a joint initiative to make the transition from child and adolescent care towards adult psychiatric care more smoothly.

During the WPA congress in Madrid 2014, Prof Allan Tasman, president of the WPA Committee on Education invited me to become a member of this committee. Though this question came much to my surprise, I felt much honored and accepted the invitation thereby referring to our Section, the work of which he wasn't aware of.

In the meanwhile, Prof. Edgard Belfort and Prof. Dinesh Bhugra, well known to all Section members, appointed me also a member of the Operational Committee on Education. As you perhaps might know, Prof. Bhugra intends to establish a kind of a basic certificate for those psychiatrists living in a country where there is no official certification process. He hopes to engage the UEMS in the development of it and all this within a WPA framework. From this background, I'll represent the Section in Taipei during the upcoming WPA Congress in November.

UEMS in Brussels has finally inaugurated the Domus Medica Europea (DME). It raises important financial issues however, leading to many discussions to resolve transitional financial difficulties. These discussions make clear that the actual UEMS structure definitely needs adjustment to its functioning. Sections became very active operational units and developed into structures of their own kind, not yet reflected in the actual UEMS Rules of Procedure. During our own meeting in Berlin, also the meeting of the Council, Sections and Boards takes place in Warsaw. With the officers, we decided that attending the meeting in Berlin is most important for the Section. So I won't be chairing the Grouping III Meeting. Grouping I and II bring together specialties related to surgery and internal medicine, Grouping III is a mixture of all the rest what makes it rather difficult to find common interests. These financial aspects will be a topic of discussion in Berlin.

The collaboration on a European level continues. I'll have a rather informal meeting with Prof. Wolfgang Gaebel, standing EPA president after the suggestion from Matt Muyen (WHO) to fresh up a task force established some years ago and encompassing the engagement of EPA, UEMS, WPA and WHO. For the upcoming EPA congress in Madrid, the EPA NPA's Council invited the UEMS to give a presentation about a Europe wide training curriculum in psychiatry on its symposium.

UEMS Psychiatry Section Officers

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