

The following newsletter was published in '**Community Dental Health**' in December 1997

The European Association of Dental Public Health was founded in 1996. EADPH is a learned society whose aims are:

- to promote oral health and oral health strategies within Europe;
- to be an advocate on oral health issues;
- to be supportive of oral health initiatives within countries;
- to raise the profile of oral health by developing links with the EU Commission;
- to work towards the development and recognition of the speciality within Europe;
- to work constructively with industry by providing a network and expertise in the evaluation of products and to harmonise advice on products impacting on oral health across Europe.

Cittadella Meeting

The first congress of the EADPH was held in the old walled town of Cittadella in Northern Italy on 26th and 27th September 1997. 138 participants attended and 71 posters were presented with authors coming from 18 countries. The theme of the congress was the promotion of oral health within Europe and the two day programme provided an excellent framework for this aspect of public health. There were verbal sessions from invited speakers held each morning in the charming Theatre Sociale and in the afternoon poster presentations and discussions were held in the old gaol tower.

The abstracts for the Congress were published in the September 1997 edition of Community Dental Health. Each delegate received a copy of the journal and it provided an excellent bonus to the re-launch of the journal.

As well as a busy scientific programme the conference hosts Professor Falcoloni, Professor Favero and Dr Ferro arranged for the conference to be addressed by both the Regional Minister for Health, and the Mayor of the region. A 'Mushroom Banquet' was held on the Friday evening, and the beautiful September sunshine was enjoyed by all participants over the two days. All agreed that the Cittadella meeting gave the organization just the sort of start it needed.

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting was held in Cittadella on 26th September 1997. There was a large attendance and the meeting was led by the steering group and in particular by the Chair, Dr Cynthia Pine. The steering group of Dr C Pine, Prof A Borutta, Dr J Cortes, Dr D Holst, Prof P E Petersen, Prof GJ Truin, Prof M Barranquero, Prof PM Cahen, Prof G Falcolini, Mr A Lawrence, Prof K Pieper and Prof E Widstrom were applauded for directing the association to its present state and Dr Pine's contribution was especially recognised. The first officers of EADPH were nominated and elected en bloc to the Executive Board and are listed below;

Officers of the Executive Board of EADPH

President

Dr Cynthia Pine, Scotland

Vice President

Dr Roberto Ferro, Italy

Secretary

Professor Eeva Widstrom, Finland

Treasurer

Professor Klaus Pieper, Germany

Editor

Professor Gert-Jan Truin, The Netherlands

Executive Officer : Membership

Professor Montserrat Barranquero Arola, Spain

Executive Officer : Eastern Europe

Professor Annerose Borutta, Germany

Executive Officer : Working Groups

Professor Dorthe Holst, Norway

Executive Officer : Communications

Kathryn Neville, Ireland

EADPH Constitution

The draft constitution is well developed and will be circulated to members for comment. In brief, the Association will continue to be based on individual membership. However, there will be a category of membership which will allow groups and organisations to be affiliated to EADPH as Supporting Organisation Members. The business of EADPH will be conducted by the Council which will comprise the Executive Board and one Councillor from each country with members. The full Council will meet annually at the EADPH congress and the Executive Board biannually.

Working Groups

The establishment of Working Groups initially in the following areas is planned.

- Oral Health Promotion to consider for example, aspects of working with the oral care industry within Europe to enhance uniformity in the labelling of fluoride content of toothpastes in ppmF and associated issues, and; working with the food industry to promote informative and appropriate labelling of sugar content of foodstuffs and sugar-related claims;
- Epidemiology to work towards harmonisation of epidemiological methods, so facilitating monitoring of oral health and developing national targets for oral health, and; promoting the incorporation of these targets into national and EU health targets;
- Speciality: promoting the development of the speciality of dental public health within Europe. Chairman : Mr. John Langford, Consultant in Dental Public Health, UK.
- Education: developing the academic base of dental public health in Europe. Chairman: Professor Falcolini, Dean of the Sassari Dental School, Italy.

The co-ordination of Working Groups is the responsibility of Professor Holst and do contact her if you have any ideas or suggestions. Her e-mail is dholt@odont.uio.no Much of the communications amongst the respective groups will be done by mail with the members having the opportunity to meet and have discussions at Congress.

2nd Congress of EADPH

Spanish members have kindly agreed to host the next meeting in Santander in Northern Spain. This is to be held 25th to 26th September 1998 at the University of the Basque Country.

Call for abstracts

Abstracts should be submitted for poster presentations by 2nd March 1998. Further information can be obtained from:-

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New Members

New members are welcome. Application forms are available from Professor Montserrat Barranquero Arola, and her e-mail address is gepbaarm@lg.ehu.es Membership includes receiving all issues of the journal of Community Dental Health.

EADPH Newspage

Members are encouraged to send items for the newspage to Ms Kathryn Neville, Oral Health Services Research Centre, University Dental School, Wilton, Cork, Ireland.

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