

The following newsletter was published in '**Community Dental Health**' in June 1999

## **Executive Board Meeting and EADPH Programme Committee**

These meetings were held in Marburg, Germany on 8th April 1999. The meeting was arranged by Professor Klaus Pieper, the EADPH Treasurer who is also Dean of the Dental School of Marburg. Therefore we were fortunate in being able to meet in the Dental School and Klaus provided excellent facilities.

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### **Executive Board Meeting**

The main business of the Board meeting was the establishment of EADPH under German law as an association with charitable status. This process is necessary within most European countries in order to regularise tax affairs. The procedure is formal and we were pleased to have the assistance of a German lawyer, Georg Böttner. Several minor changes were made to the Constitution adopted by the Association in Santander and the legal process essentially established a new EADPH as from 8th April 1999. No changes of substance were made. The minor changes to the constitution included the need to specify a beneficiary of Association funds should the Association ever be disbanded in the future. The beneficiary needed to be in line with the aims of the Association and the World Health Organisation was agreed to be most appropriate by Board members. A copy of this formal version of the constitution is being prepared and will be sent to each member and be available on the web site.

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### **Changes of Officers**

Dr Pine ends her term of office as the first President of EADPH in September and Dr Roberto Ferro will be inaugurated as the new President at the EADPH Congress banquet in Strasbourg. Professor Dorthe Holst is on sabbatical leave and can no longer continue as Executive Officer for Working Groups. Dr Pine has agreed to take on this post for the next year while Immediate Past President.

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### **Programme Committee Meeting**

Members of the Board constituted the Programme Committee which was chaired by Professor Gert-Jan Truin, Editor, and joined by members of the local organising team for the Strasbourg Congress. Therefore the Programme Committee comprised Dr Cynthia Pine, President; Dr Robert Ferro, Vice President; Professor Eeva Widström, Secretary; Professor Klaus Pieper, Treasurer; Dr Annerose Borutta, Executive Officer – Eastern Europe; Professor Montserrat Barranquero, Executive Officer – Membership; and the local organising team led by Professor Pierre-Michel Cahen, EADPH Co-President 1999, University of Strasbourg; Dr Anne-Marie Obry-Musset, University of Strasbourg and Dr Lucien Brisset, University of Reims.

Each abstract was reviewed by two members of the Programme Committee and recommendations were made to the rest of the Committee. In total 60 abstracts from 16 countries were accepted and authors will be invited to present posters at the EADPH meeting in Strasbourg.

The Programme Committee considered an invitation from the National Institute of Dental and Cranofacial Research (NIDCR) to hold a joint meeting with EADPH and NIDCR. NIDCR is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and has recently created a new Office of International Research. This new office has begun to identify key topics which would benefit from co-operation between groups across the world rather than limited to the US. It is also seeking

views and links with partners in Europe. As part of this, the new Office has made links with the EU Commission. Part of the way forward will be to link into and augment nationally or EU funded programmes. At this stage some funding has been allocated for planning grants to bring together groups of people working in similar fields in different countries. This is occurring at a time when the Framework V programme of the EU is launching its first call for proposals in June and with a second call in October. EADPH is in a strong position to identify what the Association members regard as important research areas in dental public health in the next 5 years. The Board agreed to host a joint symposium which will be held on the second morning of the Congress in Strasbourg on Thursday 9th September.

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### **EADPH Congress, Strasbourg, 8-9 September 1999**

The next congress of EADPH will be held in Strasbourg on Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th September under the auspices of the Council of Europe. The organising team is led by Professor Pierre-Michel Cahen, EADPH Co-President 1999 and includes Dr Anne-Marie Obry-Musset, also of the Faculte de Chirurgie Dentaire, University of Strasbourg and Dr Lucien Brisset of Reims University.

The first morning of the congress will be given to EADPH Working Groups. There will be three parallel Group meetings: Epidemiology and Health Services Research Group; Health Promotion Group; a combined meeting of Teaching and Development of the Specialty. Plans are well advanced for Group programmes. The Epidemiology and Health Services Group will include displays and demonstrations of BASCD Trainers' Packs for Epidemiological Surveys and of the new Windows-based system, SurveyPlus2 for direct data entry of dental survey data. The Health Promotion Group are organising a programme that will include invited speakers and discussions and the Teaching and Specialty Groups are reviewing undergraduate and postgraduate courses offered in European dental schools in Community Dentistry including Dental Public Health.

On both afternoons of the congress there will be viewing, presentation and discussions of posters describing recent and on-going work across many aspects of community dental practice and dental public health in Europe. 60 abstracts for poster presentations have been accepted from 16 countries.

On the second morning of the congress, there will be a joint Symposium between EADPH and the National Institute of Dental and Cranofacial Research (NIDCR) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This morning Symposium will provide a forum for defining key research areas in dental public health for the next five years. This EADPH Symposium will be chaired by the EADPH President and begin with short presentations from invited speakers to include our secretary, Professor Eeva Widström the Chief Dental Officer of Finland, representatives from the Council of Europe, from NIDCR and from industry. The main part of the morning will be given to three parallel group discussions after the presentations to identify key areas of future research. The morning will be completed by a plenary session.

Your opinions on key research areas are very important and we would like to encourage as many members to attend the Congress and participate in the symposium as possible. If you cannot attend, please send us your views so that they can be included in the discussions.

For further details on the developing Congress and Symposium programme, please check the Web Page at <http://www-eadph.u-strasbg.fr>

Professor Pierre-Michel Cahen and his team are looking forward to welcoming you to the beautiful city of Strasbourg in Alsace-Lorraine.

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## September Issue of Community Dental Health

Following discussions at BASCD Council and with the publisher at World Dental Press it has been agreed that the September issue of the journal be published a few weeks early so that it can be posted out to members prior to the EADPH Congress as the September issue will contain the published abstracts of the poster presentations. Please remember to bring your copy of Community Dental Health with you to Strasbourg

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### Associated Meetings

One of the benefits of establishing EADPH has been the growing interest in community dental practice and dental public health. An excellent example comes from Italy in the first scientific meeting of the Community Dental Service for the Veneto Region which was held in Asola in November. The theme of the meeting was the oral health of the elderly in Italy, concentrating particularly on preventive care for residents of retirement homes. The meeting was held jointly with the "Opere Pie D'Onigo", a local organisation for senior citizens and was supported by EADPH which was represented by our Vice President, Dr Roberto Ferro.

The meeting was attended by 320 participants from many healthcare areas including dentists, dental hygienists, dental nurses, medical doctors and general nurses. Dr Ferro spoke of the current and future needs of older people in Europe and Dr Gallo presented epidemiological data on the oral health of the elderly in the Veneto region, with particular emphasis on oral cancer. Dr Vianello delivered a paper on the psychological implications of the oral health status on elderly people.

Dr Ferro was pleased to report that this successful first meeting highlights the strong interest in Community Dental Services in this region of Italy.

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### News From Belarus

Dr Peter Leous, EADPH Councillor and Chief Dental Officer of Belarus is pleased to share with us the news that the Ministry of Public Health of the Republic of Belarus has approved a new National Programme for prevention of dental caries and periodontal diseases. The Programme includes objectives for oral health which are that by the year 2010 50% or more of 5-6 year old children will be caries free (in 1998 this was 9%); 12 year children will have less than 2.5 DMF teeth (in 1998 this was 3.8); and 15 year children will have 3.0 or more healthy sextants as measured by CPITN. The major preventive methods approved for the programme were fluoridated salt, oral hygiene with fluoridated toothpastes and dietary counselling.

### Italy

The EADPH councillor, Dr Carlo Ghirlanda, informs that us a working group has been constituted to define guidelines for community dentistry in Italy. The group has met four times and one of the first areas to be tackled is the health needs of elderly people and the role of dental public health in relation to care in old age. Those with an interest in the elderly and guidelines development and who would like to share their expertise are welcome to contact Dr Ghirlanda. EADPH councillors' contact details are on our web page at <http://www.dundee.ac.uk/eadph>