

Minutes EUPHA section “Ethics in Public Health”, Milan, October 17th 2015

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Round of introduction
3. Minutes and plans from last year
4. Activities during Milan conference
5. Other ongoing activities associated to the section
6. Future plans (Vienna 2016 etc.)
7. Wrap up

1. Welcome

Peter Schröder-Bäck, president of the section, welcomes all present at the “Join the Network of Ethics in Public Health”. This is the ‘new’ name for what was previously known as “annual meeting”.

2. Round of introduction

Attendants: Amet Suess, Angus Dawson, Fahrang Tahzib, Andrea Buron-Post; Peter Schröder-Bäck (president); Els Maeckelberghe (vice-president), Charli Eriksson, Massimiliano Colucci, William Sherlaw (towards the end due to agenda conflicts).

Buron.andrea@gmail.com

Massimiliano.colucci@fondazionelanza.net

Farhang.Tahzib@gmail.com

Charli.eriksson@oru.se

Angus.dawson@sydney.edu.au

amets.suess.easp@juntadeandalucia.es

peter.schroder@maastrichtuniversity.nl

e.l.m.maeckelberghe@umcg.nl

William.Sherlaw@ehesp.fr

3. Minutes and plans from last year

Comparing our activities at the EUPHA Conference in Milan with our discussions from the last year's section meeting, we see that we could realise some of our plans from last year's section meeting. We had a workshop on the question what practitioners want from ethics and a workshop on research ethics.

4. Activities during Milan conference

The "Round table: Ethics in public health research: collective responsibility, sustainability and social transformation" was organized by Amets Suess, Andalusian School of Public Health in collaboration with the section. Our evaluation: The workshop was successful. There was a full room and received good feedback. It is a hot topic in the research community. Maybe it could have been more interactive. This workshop could be elaborated on next year.

Els Maeckelberghe presented at the "Skills building seminar: Are we critical enough in analysing health research findings?" which was co-organized by EUPHAnxt, EuroNet and YFG and where the section collaborated. Our evaluation: There was good attendance – mixed audience of young and senior researchers. It was received well and seen as useful.

The "workshop: Getting public health ethics into practice" was organized by the section. **Our evaluation:** Even though this workshop was after the 'Join the network-meeting', we can add that this was a workshop with good attendance (even though it took place saturday morning after the conference dinner). The presentations were excellent and there was a vivid discussion.

5. Other ongoing activities associated to the section

Spain: There was a meeting on research ethics ("Waste of knowledge") organised by the Spanish EUPHA member SESPAS (Spanish Association of Public Health and Healthcare) and the Fundació Víctor Grífols i Lucas. It took place in September 2015 in Spain. It was a good workshop and format that maybe might be transferable to other countries. The section can be of added value to disseminate the results.

UK: Another collaboration was a workshop on Public Health Ethics from the UK Faculty of Public Health where senior public health leaders discussed how to get ethics into practice. Here again the collaboration with our section was valued.

The results of both events were also presented in either of the two workshops mentioned above (the SESPAS one in the “Research Ethics” workshop, the PHF one in the one on “Practice”).

6. Future plans (Vienna 2016 etc.)

The section would like to organize a preconference. It must be decided in January. If there is a problem with financing we might inquire with the Fundació Víctor Grífols i Lucas. We decide on the theme of conflict of interest – working with industries (e.g. UK and food industries in schools). Els and Fahrang will discuss examples on what they do in the UK. Spain will share ideas as well.

Charli mentions that in Sweden integrity of persons in research (Data Protection Act) is a much debated topic. In general, there seems to be an interest in child autonomy. We decide to submit a workshop. Charli, Peter, Amets, and Els will look into that.

There are more plans to continue to think about teaching of public health ethics. Peter is in the lead for that.

7. Wrap up

We distribute the minutes within the EUPHA section and invite people to contact Peter if they are interested in getting involved in either of the three envisaged future activities.

- Pre conference on integrity
- Workshop on child autonomy
- Teaching of public health ethics

Els Maeckelberghe, 17.10.2015