



Notes from the ‘Join the Network’ meeting of the Section of Social Security, Work and Health, in Milan October 16, 2015.

Chaired by professor Kristina Alexanderson, section president. Some 10-15 people present

1. Welcome and a round of short presentations.
2. The minutes from the last year’s meeting has been sent out to all members of the section, there were no comments on them.
3. Administrative updates: Kristina informs us that she might not be the chair of the Eupha Section Council from next year.
The upcoming EPH conferences are in Vienna 9-12 Nov 2016 and Stockholm 1-4 Nov, 2017.
4. Reflections on the 2015 conference. Several things were discussed:
 - The pre-conference about theories and methods used in sickness absence research was much appreciated and we thanked the organizers.
 - A discussion about how some of our abstracts/presentations are placed in less applicable tracks – that is, in tracks with no relevance for e.g. sickness absence or insurance medicine. Complaints were raised about how that e.g. PhD students having had presentations without getting any questions from audience, due to the topic presented was so outside the rest of the presentations in that session. Suggestions about not ticking other boxes than “social security and work” when submitting abstracts.
 - At the same time all realize the overlap and the potential for, for example collaborative future workshops with other sections, as we had this year
 - Comments about relevant key persons missing at this conference, due to the change of conference dates. Would be good if we always had the conferences in November – most of us plan for e.g., teaching duties etcetera years ahead for this.
 - Some called for more “natural” meeting places at conference locations. This year not much space for spontaneous meetings.
 - The display of posters during poster walks and at other times did not work as well as “ordinary” posters, small font etc made them difficult to appreciate and you had to search for specific posters there was no room for coincidentally reading an interesting one.
 - Catastrophic internet connections, this is not acceptable!
 - It was an advantage that most tracks could stay in the same room during the whole conference.

5. Ongoing work, a brochure would be appreciated, there is an existing template.
6. A reminder to log in as a member at least every second year, otherwise you will no longer appear as a member in the register and not get letters etcetera
7. Several suggestions were mentioned as themes for future workshops and pre-conferences
 - Assessments of work capacity
 - Sustainable working life/extending working life
 - Entrance into working life and health aspects
 - Migrants, social security and work health
 - Traffic injury prevention
 - How to measure sickness absence, disability pension and return to work
 - Country policy comparisons
 - Collaboration facilitating activities for example speed dating/ dating board would be appreciated at the pre-conference.
8. An insurance medicine field has been successfully launched within the Cochrane collaboration, hopefully this will prove an important asset in the future. Cochrane Insurance Medicine – we hope many of you can contribute to this

Summarized by
Emilie Friberg and Kristina Alexanderson