Report of EURACT Council Meeting
Dublin, 7-8 September 2016

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1. Dr. Jo Buchanan, UK, President
2. Dr. Mario R. Sammut, Malta, Honorary Secretary
3. Prof. Francesco Carelli, Italy, EB member
4. Prof. Ruth Kalda, Estonia, EB member
5. Prof. Adam Windak, Poland, EB member
6. Dr. Jachym Bednar, Czech Republic
7. Dr. Bruce Brinkley, Switzerland
8. Dr. Venija Cerovecki Nekić, Croatia
9. Dr. Eva de Fine Licht, Sweden
10. Dr. Martine Granek-Catarivas, Israel
11. Dr. Ilse Hellemann, Austria
12. Dr. Dimitrios Karnasios, Greece
13. Dr. Helena Karppinen, Finland
14. Dr. Nino Kiknadze, Georgia
15. Ass. Prof. Zalika Klemenc-Ketis, Slovenia
16. Dr. Pavlo Kolesnyk, Ukraine (present only for the last session)
17. Dr. Inguna Locmele, Latvia
18. Assoc. Prof. Roar Maagaard, Denmark
19. Assoc. Prof. Valentina Madjova, Bulgaria
20. Prof. Nele Michels, Belgium
21. Dr. Razvan Miftode Florentin, Romania
22. Dr. Darach Ó Ciardha, Ireland
23. Dr. Nynke Sherpbier-de Haan, The Netherlands
24. Dr. Peter Vajer, Hungary
25. Dr. Sonata Varvuolyte, Lithuania
26. Dr. Iveta Vaverková, Slovakia
27. Dr. Natalia Zarbailov, Moldova

- Guest/observer: Dr Chloe’ Delacour, France – Vasco da Gama Movement (VdGM)
- Prof. Amanda Howe, UK, President-Elect to WONCA World, guest for last session
- Ms Barbara Toplek, Administrative Secretary, Slovenia

Not present:

1. Prof. Esra Saatci, Turkey, Honorary Treasurer
2. Dr. Denise Alexandra Cunha Velho, Portugal
3. Prof. Elena Andreeva, Russia
4. Prof. Ljiljana Cvejanov Kezunovic, Montenegro
5. Dr. Dolores Forés, Spain
6. Dr. Peter Prydz, Norway
7. Dr. Maja Račić, Bosnia & Herzegovina
8. Dr. Radmila Ristovska, FYR Macedonia
9. Assoc. Prof. Llukan Rrumbullaku, Albania
10. Dr. Mira Kiš Veljković, Serbia
11. Prof. Stefan Wilm, Germany


Report of the Meeting

Wednesday 7 September 2016

Pre-Council Executive Board Meeting

Present – Jo, Mario, Adam, Francesco, Ruth, Barbara
Excused – Esra

Items discussed:

Part 1 (EB members only)
1. Welcome (Jo)
2. Report of EB meetings held during Budapest Council meeting (April 2016) – available from website (Mario): no comments
3. Planning of Council Meeting (Jo & Mario)
   a. Timetable of council meeting: Jo intended this to be efficient as possible to leave time to prepare for the conference.
   b. Timetable of business meeting: 2 added items (PREPARE and collaboration with VdGM and the WONCA SIGFV).
4. Future EURACT conferences (Jo): perhaps Autumn 2018? To ask Jan (who had offered to host the conference) and Nele? In that case transfer venue of Autumn 2018 Council Meeting from Latvia to Belgium?
5. Reduced fee for WONCA Europe Networks to become EGPRN Institutional Members (Jo): 600 Euros per 3 years with some special benefits. After discussion, the EB agreed not to take up this offer as it was felt that it is not appropriate for one WONCA Europe network to be a member of another.
6. Half of EB is not allowed to participate at WONCA (not permitting decisions to be taken correctly as EB also if events could happen, also permitting another chance to meet) (Francesco). Jo explained how the urgent decision to change the venue of the Adana meeting in Spring 2016 was taken, but she accepted that a Skype meeting between the members of the EB would have been better.
7. Members working hard in EURACT and also involved in presentations and work are not allowed to participate at events (Francesco). Jo presented the sponsorship of EURACT council members to the Dublin conference as one example of how members can be helped in this regard.
8. Any other business: none.

Part 2 (EB joined by chairs of committees and task groups to discuss work in such committees / groups)

Dublin Conference
Darach: there will be 220 participants (100 from Ireland and the rest from Europe), with a nice spread of participation between the workshops and oral presentations.

BME Committee
Francesco: only few members worked between meetings in preparing the workshop for the conference.
**ST Committee**
Nele: committee to decide which of the new topics proposed will be taken on.

**CME Committee**
Jachym: happy with activity at the WONCA Europe Copenhagen conference last June 2016, with 2 successful workshops. Two abstracts submitted for the EURACT Dublin conference, with one being accepted.

**Membership Services Committee**
Denise is not attending due to her daughter’s illness: Adam was asked to coordinate the MSC with other members.

**Appraisal of GP Teachers Task Group**
Jo: appraisal project is slow to get off the ground. Viola has been kept on as coordinator on a part-time basis. Also perhaps it is time to find a new chair. Adam revealed that the project was approved by the EU assessors with full financial support.

**EURACT Website Task Group**
Darach: new website was soft-launched in June during the WONCA Europe Copenhagen conference, with further work being done subsequently. Now only the image gallery still needs to be transferred after a Flickr account is set up.

**Provision of Educational Resources Task Group**
Martine: not yet clear about objectives, many examples given, still need to decide what to work on and develop for EURACT, e.g. teaching modules for minimal core curriculum.

**Pre-Council Journal Club**
*Facilitated by Nynke Sherpbier-de Haan*

The following articles were discussed under the **theme ‘e-learning’**:
- Learning results of GP trainers in a blended learning course on EBM: a cohort study - Ellen te Pas, Margreet Wieringa–de Waard, Wouter de Ruijter and Nynke van Dijk (BMC Medical Education (2015) 15:104)

**Session 1a: Welcome, approval of meeting agenda**

President Jo Buchanan (UK) welcomed everyone, especially Chloe’ Delacour from France who was attending as a guest/observer from VdGM. Other members then introduced themselves.

The Meeting Agenda was approved with some changes.

Chloe’ Delacour, France then introduced herself and gave a short presentation on the ‘French Curriculum’. She is to ask for permission for it to be uploaded on the EURACT website.
Session 1b: Updates on committees’ and task groups’ work

The chairpersons/representatives of the committees and task groups each gave presentations as follows:

Committees:
- Basic Medical Education (BME) – Francesco, chair: see Appendix 1
- Specialist Training (ST) – Nele, chair: see Appendix 1
- CME/CPD – Jachym, chair: see Appendix 1
- Member services (MS) – Dimitrios, representative: said a few words about its function (no slideshow shown).

Task groups:
- Appraisal of GP Teachers – Jo, chair: gave a summary about the group, the workshop in the conference and how to get more people to do the appraisal
- Website task group – Darach, chair: asked members to go through the new website launched at the WONCA Europe Conference last June in Copenhagen and suggest any improvements that may be implemented.
- Provision of Educational Resources – develop new teaching tools including on-line learning - Martine, chair: see Appendix 2

Session 1c: Business Meeting – part 1

1. Jo Buchanan, President, welcomed Council members and presented the agenda.
2. The report of the April 2016 EURACT Council Meeting in Budapest prepared by Hon. Secretary Mario R Sammut (available on the EURACT website) was taken as read. With no feedback forthcoming from the council members present, the report was approved.
3. Jo Buchanan presented her President’s Report (see Appendix 3) which was taken as read after having been already circulated. With no feedback forthcoming from the council members present, the report was approved.
4. Report from EURACT representative on WONCA Europe Executive Board (Roar): this was read out (see Appendix 4 for report).
5. General meeting
   a. The 2nd General Meeting for 2016 was opened by Jo Buchanan, President, and the set agenda was approved by the Council.
   b. As 26 out of 38 Council Members (with Pavlo arriving on Thursday afternoon) were present (as confirmed by Hon. Secretary Mario Sammut), the required quorum was reached.
   c. Membership fees: update re country payments (Barbara o.b.o. Esra). Fees collected from 17 countries in Budapest: Barbara is available to receive more fees.
   d. Approval of new members: see below (Session 6).
**e. Other issues:** none

6. Activities reports
   a. EURACT website: already tackled in Session 1b. Jo thanked Mario for his work in transferring the content of the old website to the new one.

7. Future EURACT conferences
   a. EURACT educational conference 8-10 September 2016, Dublin, Ireland (Darach) – to be discussed in a specific session tomorrow (see Session 5).
   b. EURACT educational conference 2018: Jo announced that the EB has started thinking about this and will work on it further.

8. Future EURACT courses
   a. Janko Kesnik EURACT Bled Course, 20-24 September 2016 (Zalika): The theme will be Teaching and Learning about the Future of Family Medicine. This is the 25th anniversary course, with Prof. Valerie Wass as a new contributor. A paper has been written about the course and has been accepted for publication by the EJGP.
   b. Level 2 Course, Tartu, Estonia, 6-8 October 2016 (Ruth): Applications received: more than 30. The facilitators are confirmed (Igor, Egle, Roger and Ruth).
   c. Level 1 Course, Thessaloniki, Greece, 25-27 May 2017 (Dimitrios): Faculty: Justin Allen, Igor Svab, Adam Windak and Dimitrios Karnassios, with Sakis Simeonidis and Dimitrios Karnassios as organisers. EURACT will sponsor 12 places, preferably in trios.
   d. Level 3 Course: Malta, 14 October 2017 and Thessaloniki, Greece, 29th - 30th June 2018 (Dimitrios): Faculty includes Igor Svab, Adam Windak, Renzo De Gabriele and Dimitrios Karnassios. There will be 8 sponsored spaces, with space for another 10 paying participants. So far one official application has been received, with interest from another two.
   e. Level 2 Course 2018: no offers to host this so far.
   f. Level 1 Course, Prague, 2019: still to be confirmed (TBC) by Jachym.

9. Future Council meetings
   a. Spring meeting 30 March – 1 April 2017, Tel Aviv, Israel (Martine): Ruth Daniel Residence (Mishkenot), Tel-Aviv Jaffa. Members were invited to attend the Annual Conference of the Israel Association of Family Physicians in Jerusalem the day before.
   b. Autumn meeting 2017: Barcelona, Spain (confirmed by Dolores through email after the meeting)
   c. Spring meeting 2018: Greece (Dimitrios)
   d. Autumn meeting 2018: Belgium (Nele) – TBC
   e. Spring meeting 2019: Latvia (Inguna) – TBC

10. WONCA Europe Conferences
    a. WONCA Europe Conference 2016, Copenhagen, Denmark, June 15-18: see Roar’s report above.
    b. WONCA World Conference 2016, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, November 2-6: Barbara will have a WONCA Europe stand where materials about EURACT courses can be made available.
c. WONCA Europe Conference 2017, Prague, Czech Republic, June 28 – July 1 (Jachym): invitation from organisers to EURACT to organise two symposia / workshops.

11. Collaboration with other WONCA-Europe networks: updates
   a. with EGPRN and Vasco da Gama on the topic of research into specialty training: seminar presented at the WONCA Europe Conference in Copenhagen last June (Jo and Zalika): Jo gave the latest news.
   b. with the EQuiP teaching quality group in the writing of the European Teaching Agenda on Quality and Safety in Family Medicine (Zalika): this is progressing slowly.
   c. with EGPRN in a joint project to develop a module with the working title “Teaching research for non-researchers (mostly trainees in FM)” (Zalika): this seems to have stalled and needs to be restarted.

12. EURACT liaison on behalf of WONCA Europe with PREPARE (Platform for European Preparedness Against (Re-) emerging Epidemics) (Jo and Zalika): funding is available to develop relevant educational materials. Members interested in participating were invited to contact Jo and Zalika and participate in a lunchtime meeting tomorrow.

At the end of the session, Darach O’ Ciardha, as host, gave some organisational announcements.

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**Thursday 8 September 2016**

**Session 2: Committees’ session**

All members then split up to work in the 4 committees:
- Basic Medical Education (BME)
- Specialist Training (ST)
- CME/CPD
- Member services (MS)

**Session 3: Task groups session**

The task groups met as follows:
- Appraisal of GP teachers
- Website task group
- Provision of Educational Resources – develop new teaching tools including on-line learning

**Session 4: Reports from committees and task groups**

Representatives of the following committees presented their work:
• BME: Francesco, chair. The Committee worked on the workshop it will be facilitating in the Dublin conference.
• ST: Nele, chair. See report in Appendix 5. The Committee proposed a workshop for the WONCA Europe Conference in Prague 2017 and asked for the Council’s approval to run a survey among members regarding leadership (approval was granted).
• CME/CPD: Jachym, chair. See report in Appendix 5.
• MS: Bruce, new co-chair. See report in Appendix 5. Points made in the ensuing discussion regarding the Level 3 Teachers’ Course included the need of criteria for selection of participants, and the need to solicit participants. The latter was given more importance than imposing an early closing date in order to gather money as a deposit for the hotel in Malta (another hotel can be found).

The representatives of the following task groups presented their work.

• Website: Darach, chair.
• Appraisal of GP teachers: Jo, chair. Roar encouraged strongly members to participate individually.
• Provision of Educational Resources: Martine, chair.

The reports of the task groups may be seen in Appendix 6.

Session 5: Medical Educational Conference

Darach gave updated information about registration, the social activities, and the programme. The evaluation forms were distributed to the assessors, who were identified according to the sessions they will be evaluating.

Session 6: Business meeting – part 2

4. General meeting (continued)
   • Approval of new members: applicants, all endorsed by their respective country representatives, were unanimously approved. The full list may be seen in Appendix 6.

13. Request for collaboration with VdGM and the WONCA SIGFV re project about the “Effects of an e-learning platform to improve primary care physicians response to family violence” (Jo). The Council agreed that the relevant survey be circulated to members.
14. Announcements (1-slide, 2-minutes): none
15. Action points not covered elsewhere: none
16. Any other business: none

Session 7: Future of EURACT
Jo & Francesco facilitated this meeting, with special guest Prof. Amanda Howe. After an introduction from Jo, Francesco gave an introductory presentation on the topic, followed by Adam who shared personal reflections arising from his 24 years’ experience in EURACT.

The participants then split up into small groups to share replies to questions prepared by Jo and Francesco. These were there shared by rapporteurs to Council: Dimitrios, Sonata, Natalia, Nele, Roar, Nynke, Bruce.

The session was then closed by Amanda who kindly provided her overall impressions after listening to the various contributions.

The presentations and feedbacks may be found in Appendix 7

**Post-Council Executive Board Meeting.**

- EB Meeting 14 January 2017: Francesco to ask Manfred if he can host us in Vienna.
- Future Council meetings
  - Autumn meeting 2017: Tarragona, Spain – Barbara sent a text to Dolores and Mario sent her an email. Fall back option: Razvan is to check re Bucharest. Later, Dolores confirmed by email that the meeting will be hosted in Barcelona.
  - Autumn meeting/conference 2018: Inguna accepted to postpone the meeting, possibly to Spring 2019. Nele is to check for the meeting to be held in Antwerp, Jan to be asked if he is interested to host the conference: he later agreed to host it in Leuven. Valentina had expressed an interest to host in Bulgaria (was still to check with her organisation) – informed that arrangements were already being made with Belgium.
  - Spring meeting 2019: Latvia (Inguna) - TBC
- Dublin conference: no financial contract signed with ICGP yet.
- Member Services Committee: Adam expressed a worry that the committee is too small. The EB discussed possible options for improving the situation, but there is no obvious solution. In the meantime, Adam is to follow-up with Dimitrios the required publicising of the Leonardo courses.
- Two workshops for Prague in June 2017: one will be from the ST Committee. As the other committees did not offer other workshops, the EB agreed to Jo’s proposal that the 2nd workshop be about PREPARE.
- Future of EURACT session: the follow-up to this session will be discussed by the EB during its meeting next January 2017.

**Post-Conference Review**

Members of Council who were still present at the end of the conference took part in a review session regarding the conference. The following points were shared regarding two questions:
WHAT WENT WELL?

- Local organisation was perfect
- Teamwork in collaboration
- Engagement of all involved in different ways according to their strengths
- Format of 1.5 days
- Content was excellent, including workshops
- Right mix of content types: keynotes, orals, workshops, posters
- Variety of topics related to FM education
- Good chairing of sessions
- Social media interaction during conference
- Hospitality

WHAT COULD BE DONE DIFFERENTLY?

- A manual of procedures for organising such a conference
- Ample time frame for planning and organising the conference, including the time slots and rooms at conference venue
- Knowledge of location (city) required 6 months beforehand to facilitate travel when visa required
- Sharing of tasks between all involved in organisation
- Use of a credit card system to facilitate payment of organisational expenses (rather than reimbursement)
- Sending instructions to delegates as early as possible
- Perhaps more rigorous acceptance procedure for abstracts?
- Keynotes on education theory
- Workshops should be working sessions, not lectures: instructions should be prepared
- Dedicated poster session
- Involvement of trainees in presenting
- Programme not so crowded – not so much time to network: so either increase to 2 days, or decrease content
- Time between slots to allow switching of rooms
- Enough time for breaks to allow networking
- Simpler evaluation forms of orals and posters
- Web-based evaluation of orals and posters
- Council members to commit to attend the whole conference
- Conference evaluation from participants
- Healthy food options to be made available
Appendix 1: Updates on committees’ work since last meeting

**Basic Medical Education (BME)**
Francesco Carelli, Chair

Here BME Committee!
- Since I am there:
  - ECE (Early Clinical Exposure)
  - EURACT Checklist for Attachment Program Organisers
  - European Minimal Core Curriculum in undergraduate
  - Mapping academic situation of undergraduate teaching for family medicine in Europe

Recently
- EURACT Statement on Undergraduate Teaching of Family Medicine in Europe
- Published also on Eur.J.Gen.Pract. - and on WONCA World News

Now
- Activities to enforce General Practice / Family Medicine around Europe with Delphi Method through discussions and questionnaire with EURACT Council Members
- WS in Dublin accepted: about Core Curriculum in Undergraduate Teaching

**CME/CPD**
Jachym Bednar, Chair

Work in the period between:
- 2 workshops in Copenhagen:
  - **Multimorbidity in family practice – educational needs.**
  - Discussion about teaching methods and learning needs of GPs in cultural competence (Growing together in diversity)

Dublin and future tasks:
- For Dublin:
  - 2 workshop proposed:
    - 1st accepted: Empowering doctors to use modern technology whilst still remaining patient centred
    - 2nd not accepted: Cultural competence teaching - level 1: cultural awareness - **How to deal with stereotypes and prejudices in our lives**
- Prague Wonca conference: what to propose?
- Doctor’s well being - how to treat doctors
- Motto: “Growing together in diversity”

Future tasks:
- writing the teaching agenda for quality and safety in family medicine – Zalika
Specialist Training (ST)
Nele Michels, Chair

PROGRESS MADE

- workshops for WONCA/the educational conference
- update of the website
  - b. for your country data!
  - c. thanks to the EURACT webmaster!
- survey on selection procedures: first results - Nynke

(NEW) OBJECTIVES

- Q of teaching / teach-the-teacher programs
- underperformance of trainees/students
- the use of diagnostics & modern technology -> educational conference?
- assessment in ST
- European validation of FM?
- clinical leadership

Membership Services (ST)
No presentation shown.
Appendix 2: Updates on task groups’ work since last meeting

Appraisal of GP Teachers task group
Jo Buchanan, Chair
No presentation shown.

Website task group
Darach O’ Ciardha, Chair
No presentation shown.

Provision of Educational Resources task group
Martine Granek-Catarivas, Chair

Progress since last meeting. What should the Task Force develop?
- learning modules on topics specific to FM - agreed
  - non-clinical material - agreed
  - modules based on Minimal Core Curriculum of EURACT – 1 out of 5
- educational material on how to create E-Learning material, that should be interactive and allowing group activity (forum, virtual classroom, lectures with audience response systems) in order to keep the benefits of sharing, such as in traditional small group teaching - one fully developed module, others ideas and examples
- a bank of links to existing online resources, including
  - relevant content material - some identified (re-Journal Club)
  - links to other medical education sites – some identified

Objectives to be tackled in the present meeting
- Discuss and learn from Topic 1. Introduction to FM/GP as a specific medical discipline. Principles of Family Medicine: Continuity, comprehensiveness, coordination of care, by Nino and Francesco
- Develop ideas concerning other 4 Topics (Natalia, ?)
- Learn more about blended learning, hybrid courses, flipped classrooms, interactive E-learning … from existing implementations (Francesco, Nynke, Martine, others ?) and from literature
- Further literature research and early organisation of bank of resources

‘Provision of Educational Resources’ on-line learning modules
- More open discussion on
  - What?
  - Why?
  - Who?
  - How?
Appendix 3: President’s report

Following the council meeting in Budapest I travelled to Uzghorod in the Ukraine with Pavlo, where I spoke at a training course for Family Doctors and the following day at a conference of Family Doctors. During my visit I was able to visit Pavlo’s practice and that of a colleague. It was very impressive to see what Family Doctors are doing in very difficult circumstances to improve patient’s experiences of health care. I also had my first experience of giving an interview for TV, for the local news channel. Uzghorod was looking particularly beautiful during my visit as it was cherry blossom time and the tree-lined streets were ablaze with colour.

In May, Andrew and I were delighted to accept an invitation to the Irish College of GP’s annual dinner in Galway. This was an enjoyable evening and it was good to meet many of the people who will be contributing to the success of our conference. I was particularly pleased to meet Orla Sherlock who has worked so hard on the conference administration.

The WONCA Europe conference was held in Copenhagen in June and Roar and his colleague’s deserve congratulating on the effective delivery of a stimulating and enjoyable conference. I gave an update on EURACT’s activities to WONCA Europe’s council as part of the session contributed to by all the networks. It was very useful to hear about the other networks and their activities. Zalika and I delivered a seminar in collaboration with Vasco da Gama and EGPRN on Research in Specialty Training, this was well attended and stimulated an interesting discussion. Peter Sloane from Vasco da Gama facilitated a workshop of all the networks that reviewed how we could work together more closely. As part of these contacts we have implemented the decision made in Porto to invite a representative of Vasco da Gama to our council meetings as an observer and I am delighted that Chloe Delacour from France will be attending our meeting in Dublin.

Zalika and I have continued to contribute to the PREPARE [Pandemic preparedness] project on behalf of WONCA Europe. We are expected to develop educational materials relevant to clinicians in primary care around the topic of pandemic preparedness. I attended the annual meeting of the project partners in Madrid, we delivered a workshop in Copenhagen and also held a meeting for the networks inviting them to participate in the project. We are looking for council members who are interested in participating in
developing training in this field and will hold a session at the council meeting in Dublin on this topic.

On 3rd September I gave a talk to the European Respiratory Society’s Primary Care day in London on the Development of Primary Care. At this Jaime de Correia de Sousa, a EURACT member from Portugal and President of the IPCRG, mentioned that he and his colleagues are considering producing a syllabus for the teaching of primary care respiratory medicine. He is hoping that EURACT may be able to participate in the Delphi process that will be part of this.

In August I met in Sheffield with Liz Angier and Dermot Ryan who are both active in the Primary Care Interest Group of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. They are interested in promoting educational events in this poorly served field and were exploring whether this would be feasible.

An ongoing thread for the past few months has of course been the conference. I attended a meeting in Dublin earlier in the year with Darach and the Chief Executive of the Irish college at which I reinforced EURACT’s commitment to the conference. Jan Degryse and Darach have worked hard on the scientific programme and the arrangements and I would like to thank them for that.

Jo Buchanan
September 2016
Appendix 4: Report from EURACT representative on WONCA Europe Executive Board

1. We had a very successful WONCA Europe conference in Copenhagen in June 2016. – main theme “GPs with heads and hearts”. Around 3200 participants at this non-sponsored conference – around one third were young doctors. Keynotes and scientific content were rated high.

2. In Copenhagen there was also WE Council Meeting and for the first time the Networks and the Special Interest Groups gave brief presentations to Council – rather much appreciated by Council. Jo gave a very fine presentation of EURACT.

3. In Council Meeting the venue for 2019 conference was decided – and finally the conference goes to Bratislava, Slovakia – congratulations to them!

4. Vice-president of WE Anna Stavdal was elected as president-elect, and will take over after Job Metsemakers in Rio October 2016 – and in Rio a new president-elect will be elected in order to follow after Anna 3 years later. This way of electing president is new for WE and is inline with WONCA World.

5. In Council Meeting it was decided to establish a Conference Committee in order to speed up future development of WONCA Europe Conferences – and especially keeping conferences in line from year to year and giving WONCA Europe more influence on the conference. The conference committee is going to be established in the Rio meeting.

6. WE wish to emphasize the work in the Networks and SIG’s – and the cooperation between networks – and especially encourage to interact with Vasco da Gama.

7. WE has succeeded in a more and more formalized cooperation with WHO – as is the case for WONCA World. We find it very important to use this entrance to health policy.

Roar Maagaard, WE EB member as representative from EURACT.

September 2016.
Appendix 5: Reports from committees

**Basic Medical Education (BME)**
Francesco Carelli, Chair


Part of Committee's Members used some minutes to talk about the ongoing research on family medicine “Activities to enforce General Practice / Family Medicine around Europe”: to find the way to finalise drafts and to get published (one way was proposed and is going on soon).

a. The Committee used all the rest of the time (having only one session for one hour and half) on how to finalise preparations and how to manage the Workshop to be held in Dublin at Trinity College during the EURACT International Conference on Education: "Minimal core curriculum for Family Medicine/General Practice in undergraduate medical education: your personal experience".

b. The WS was really a big success: as the top for audience (we got the Main Hall!), as development and interest, as material got through papers and from the iPad system Helena used so well.

c. From this, we’ll be working in the meantime before the Council in Teal Aviv on the material to develop a Delphi with email addresses received from the audience and to drive forward a paper.

d. We’ll get more contacts with other Committees, now soon with the Task Force on Educational Resources, to give and get data.

Written and chaired by Francesco.

**Specialist Training (ST)**
Nele Michels, Chair

Participants: Roar, Nynke, Eva, Iveta, Inguna, Martine, Chloé, Zalika, Venija, Nino, Nele (report)

1. **EURACT Website – ST-part**
   (a) Every meeting we start revising what is on the website and if changes are needed
   (b) Short introduction:
       1) Discussion about the aim/vision of our committee
       2) Nynke will write a short text
       3) Revise (everyone) and send to the EURACT webmaster (Nele)
   (c) (Links to) papers/documents/tools
       1) Plan for the future

2. **ST-topics**
   (a) Small group discussion about topics to work out in the future
   (b) We agreed on 2 topics
       1) Teaching leadership in FM (Nele)
a. Cooperation with EQuiP & Vasco da Gama
b. Definition of EQuiP will be used as a starting point to define what we mean by leadership in FM
   i. Zalika will provide us the definition
   ii. Chloé (VdG): ASPIRE
   iii. Via dropbox we all can redefine
   iv. Deadline: 10th of Oct
c. If we have a clear definition → set up a survey (e.g. via Survey Monkey) → call to all the EURACT members to participate in the survey (note: this was approved in the next meeting)
d. Workshop WONCA Prague
   i. Zalika, Iveta and Roar will participate and can lead the workshop

2) Assessment in ST (Roar)
   a. There is a report (2015) on the EURACT website: EURACT statement on ST assessment. We want to make it up to date.
      Tools:
      i. EURACT statement (website and in dropbox)
      ii. 2 chapters of book (Norcini & Boursicout) (Eva → dropbox)
      iii. Literature (Everyone)
      iv. Deadline end of December
      v. Note: Nynke realised that the EURACT Performance Agenda contains all the needed information on assessment. See dropbox. → New plan: ?
   b. No workshop planned in the near future

3. Selection procedures
   (a) Survey and analysis of data is still going on (Nynke)
   (b) Nynke will keep us up to date if work needs to be done by the ST committee

TO DO

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>What?</th>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Deadline?</th>
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<td>Send introduction to webmaster</td>
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<td>Asap</td>
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<td>Zalika, Yvetta,</td>
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**CME/CPD**

Jachym Bednar, Chair

Present : Jo Buchanan, Ruth Kalda, Sonata Varvuolyte, Nino Kiknadze, Razvan Mitfode, Peter Vajer

Missing Pavlo Kolesnyk – arrived on Thursday 8.9. 2016 - evening

Next missing : Ljiljana Cvejanov Kezunović, Elena Andreeva, Radmila Ristovska

1. Report – Copenhagen WONCA : 2 workshops in Copenhagen:
   A. Multimorbidity in family practice – educational needs.
   B. Discussion about teaching methods and learning needs of GPs in cultural competence

2. Discussing workshop at Euract conference – particularities, assigning roles
   Presentation Title: Empowering doctors (and patients) to use modern technology whilst still remaining patient centred (workshop performed 9.9.2016 : with 32 participants – appraised well)

3. Discussing : representatives of the Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology proposed us joint working? We agreed this area is not well covered and should be promoted by education - because it is increasing to occur at patients, we will ask the Academy to specify their needs and we are ready to cooperate with them - Jo Buchanan as liaison person

4. We discussed :Prague WONCA 2017 (28.6.-1.7.2016) to submit an abstract on behalf of CPD/CME – YES … but not via direct way, we submit via abstract system, deadline probably End of January 2017, topic to be chosen: we might continue with the same workshop as in Dublin – Jachym is not going to be responsible to organise it, others might to take the organisational role : Pavlo ? Peter ? Razvan ?

5. We discussed new topic : patient safety (main). Subject: drug interaction.

6. We discussed new topic proposed by Jo : Significant event analysis, to discuss [SEA] at next meeting – Jo to circulate a new model for SEA
7. Peter proposed new topic: To identify the barriers hindering students to become FM/GP
He provides us with Questionaire for trainees and students, research to be performed in Hungary and then also within CPD/CME?, collaboration with Vasco de Gama Movement: liaison person Chloe

**Member services (MS)**
Bruce Brinkley, Co-chair

1. Chair absence:
   - Bruce will act as permanent co-chair.

2. Level 3 course 2017:
   - Hotel in Malta wants advance deposit:
     amount of deposit and deadline not yet known, Dimitrios will clarify with Renzo.
   - Not enough participants: deadline for application is end of March 2017, sponsored participants must be identified as soon as possible (end of September). Under eight sponsored participants course will be cancelled, but all efforts will be made to run this course.
   - Dimitrios will send next week an urgent reminder and application leaflet to all Council members
   - Contract to be signed between Euract and the two organizers: Renzo will approach Mario

3. Level 1 May 2017:
   - Organization is ready.
   - enrolment of participants will be easier
   - for the 12 sponsored participations: deadline end October 2016

4. Guide for Euract Courses organization and advertizing
   - Givi’s draft is a good start, Dimitrios will deliver an updated version to be discussed in Tel Aviv. Advertising should be an included topic: use the list of Wonca Europe’s
academies?

5. **Future of Level 1 courses?**
   - In most countries, it is locally organized. What countries are missing?

6. **OIC’s:**
   - Six or seven OIC’s are registered and more are awaited towards end of the year. New members must all be approved by Council. If a member wants affiliation to an OiC, he must have formal approval of the OiC.
   - Membership application procedure: Bruce (and website taskgroup) will contact the webmaster and bring a proposal in Tel-Aviv using online
   - Membership certificate: useful? Will remind council members to issue the certificates.
Appendix 6: Reports from task groups

Website task group
Darach O’ Ciardha, chair

In attendance, Mario Barbara, Razvan, Dimitrios, Bruce, Jachym, Darach

Discussion of the following projects took place:

1. Addition of online application form for prospective members to new EURACT website to allow people to register their interest in becoming EURACT members, pending provisional agreement by National Lead as being eligible to be formally ratified at EURACT Council meetings

   Process overview as discussed
   User profile/Application
   Select country from drop down menu
   Application form to be filled in – SUBMIT
   Alert National Representative and Barbara as they come in via email
   Acknowledgement email that submission is made
   Link on the email to the database
   National rep logs in and approves – Barbara and applicant are informed, message that payment in advance, how to process payment. Application will be accepted at the following council meeting
   Ability to print out application for discussion at council
   Export CSV file of database

2. Photos, we discussed addition of a photo column on the Council Members.

3. We discussed changing the name of the Task group to the Website and Branding Task Group to encompass further image tasks such as a themed powerpoint and a standardized brand identity

Action points:
Darach to pursue website changes with Tim
Darach to initiate branding review
Barbara to contact designer re updating logo

Darach

Appraisal of GP teachers
Jo Buchanan, chair

The group started by reviewing the workshop for the conference
A discussion was then held about the project – currently there has been one successful submission and one currently at the assessment stage.

Translation materials are now available through application to Viola.

Reasons for the lack of uptake were discussed. The following issues were identified:

• Internal motivation
• Time required
• Other appraisal systems in universities

The conclusion was that leadership needed to come from council members who need to commit to making a submission. In this way we will understand the portfolio and be able to promote it better.

Ways of supporting applicants were discussed – it may be helpful to have a mentor to check out what is required. Jo will explore the feasibility of this with Viola

Finally: Roar committed to submit an application by Tel Aviv

Jo Buchanan
10.9.2016

Provision of Educational Resources

Martine Granek-Catarivas, Chair

Participants: Nele Michels (Belgium), Helena Karppinen (Finland), Natalia Zarbailov (Moldavia), Nynke Scherpnier-deHaan (The Netherlands), Valentina Madjova (Bulgaria), Nino Kiknadze (Georgia), Francesco Carelli (Italy), Martine Granek-Catarivas (Israel)

New member: Iveta Vavaerkova (Slovakia)- welcome!

Guest participant: Ilse Hellemann (Austria)

Missing members: Mira Kis-Veljkivic (Serbia), Stefan Wilm (Germany), Elena Andreeva (Russia), Esra Saatci (Turkey)

Previous objectives: What should the Task Force develop?

1. learning modules on topics specific to FM
   • non-clinical material
   • modules based on Minimal Core Curriculum of EURACT

2. educational material on how to create E-Learning material, that should be interactive and allowing group activity (forum, virtual classroom, lectures with audience response systems) in order to keep the benefits of sharing, such as in traditional small group teaching.

3. a bank of links to existing online resources, including
   • relevant content material
   • links to other medical education sites

What has been done?
1. Presentation by Nino on Topic 1. Continuity, comprehensiveness, coordination of care. Nino has developed (with the help of Francesco) a module based on blended learning including: Individual E-learning - Case discussion with interactive Q&A system Small group activities – including a movie as stimulus material for discussion A short traditional lecture – summarizing the principles.

2. Presentation by Natalia on Topic 2. Holistic approach. Bio-psycho-social model. Natalia has also developed a module of blended learning on this topic. In addition she presented a summary of the difficulties she encountered while developing it.

3. Presentation by Francesco about interactive learning between GP trainees in different interconnected teaching practices, with defined learning tasks such as E-searches, cases discussions… etc. Trainees communicate through Whatsapp and other applications. The process is supervised by tutors and includes an evaluation system.

4. Nynke had sent other examples of blended learning.

Results from the Task Force discussion
1. E-learning ONLY is not appropriate to FM teaching/training. Blended learning including small group work is imperative in order to develop communication skills through discussion and clinical implementation, with supervision by clinical tutor.

2. Developing blended learning modules is time-consuming, requests team work, expertise in technology and financial/institutional support.

Future objectives and tasks
1. Further efforts to develop the above 2 modules to near final products, in order to learn more from the process (pros & cons, difficulties…), by Nino and Natalia with other members’ help.

2. Learn more about blended learning, hybrid courses, flipped classrooms, interactive E-learning and technologies … from existing implementations.

3. Connection with BME and CPD/CME committee concerning existing modules.

4. Develop a digest or checklist on how to develop blended learning.

5. Develop a bank of relevant content material and resources - some identified (re-Journal Club held in Dublin), and links to other medical education sites – some identified. Help from all Council members experience and knowledge is welcome.

6. Connection with Website Task group in the future.

Chaired and summarized by Martine Granek-Catarivas
Appendix 7: New EURACT members

Barbara Toplek, Adm. Secretary

**Croatia:**
- Miroslav Hanzevacki

**Estonia:**
**Organisations in collaboration:**
- Institute of Family Medicine and Public Health, University of Tartu (10 members – 2 new)

**Finland:**
- Hannula Kaija
- Susanna Satuli-Autere

**Greece:**
- Nikos Kakoliris
- Evanthia Kirkini
- Spyros Klinis
- Nektarios – Loucas Sivaropoulos
- Dimitris Kounalakis
- Eleni Tsapara
- Dimitrios Karapoulos

**Israel:**
- Abdallah Mashal
- Fay Turetsky

**Italy:**
- Romano Paduano
- Gabriella Pesolillo
- Paolo Baron

**Montenegro:**
- Dragana Dajkovic

**Sweden – a member from EURACT Greece:**
- Nikolaso Georgiannos

**Switzerland:**
**Organisation in collaboration:**
- Institute of Primary Health Care (BIHAM) – 4 new members
- Michael Killian

**Ukraine:**
- Shushman Ivanna
- Sergiy Melaschenko
- Chernova Iryna
- Paliy Iryna
- Chincheva Vitaliya
- Petrov Viktor
- Puzyk Svitlana
- Mariyanna Semiyaniv
- Alexander Vlasenko

**United Kingdom:**
- Catherine Nagel
- Roohi Singh

**The Netherlands:**
- Offra Duerink - a new member to Radboudumc Organisations in collaboration

**Organisations in collaboration:** 2 (7 new members)

**Individual members:** 29
Appendix 8: Future of EURACT

Future of EURACT - introduction
Francesco Carelli

1) What we miss if EURACT disappears? I think we, and everyone, would miss the conscience of the specificity of FM both in teaching and in discussion and update about its fundamental principles and practical applications, aimed to standardize, give everything that occurs in this area in the individual states, to create a European GP, even with local specificities. So, we have to accept countries and persons’ specificities and different (or differently managed) needs and expectations: it is not fair and a loss to let some good members choose to leave because of that.

2) All issues raised from CMs and National Members could be legitimate concerns and are useful for any organization to reflect on

3) For example, there could be some frustration expressed by part of those who are personally committed and enthusiastic

4) The issue of country representation

5) Some are questioning about the need/value to pay Wonca + Wonca Europe + European networks fees. There is also perhaps a need to look at the interface between the European networks and the Wonca WPs, for most productive mutual working?

6) EURACT’s force was strong continuity of persons, working on key documents, not just at meetings, but also in between, keeping contacts each other by email

7) Benefits. Big countries are totally absent, like France, or with very few and not so interested members: Germany, UK, Italy, Spain, Russia. On the contrary, great and growing interest is arising from little countries or new countries on specific issues.

8) Too fast admissions could expand some division and create problems as in EU? Be prepared to problems as unity of interest and action; must maintain the Original Idea

9) Another problem is still North - South / East – West / Big - little / academic – teaching practice: some continue to take some kind of leadership as university think - tank and as exchanging leader positions. This could create discontent somewhere else.

10) There is a big difference in involvement, Why many people work strongly when at meetings ...and only few work in between, while others don’t participate actively?, think about.

11) Importance of sharing duties and involvements, so that near everybody, if willing, will be in charge of something when at disposal. So, work in between, also, could be guaranteed.
12) Help when national problems. In the past, we produced periodical Statements and "Political positions" in particular situations, and I think that they were useful and helpful in national problems.

We are not a political body? When you act in teaching policies etc, you act and interfere politically! ..so in some Countries EURACT is what ?? Rightly we speak and discuss about .."philosophical / methodological teaching" ....but, meanwhile national health care systems and consequently teaching institutions / realities and methodologies are on dismantling and are closed !!!

Of course, we must not interfere with the National Governments or Policy, but I think it is correct to fight for our high task and mission in Health Systems and FM Teaching organizations.

With many thanks

Future of EURACT - personal reflections

Adam Windak, Polish EURACT Representative since 1992

- Leeuwenhorst Group, 1974
- New Leeuwenhorst Group, 1982
- European Academy of Teachers in General Practice (EURACT), 1992
- EURACT 2.0 ???

Leeuwenhorst Group, 1974
- 8 individual experts – a wise men circle
- Discussion club
- Basic concepts of the discipline
- First definition

New Leeuwenhorst Group, 1982
- Extension of membership
- Informal international organization
- Position statements
- Small scare exchange of experiences
- Mostly Western Europe

European Academy of Teachers in General Practice (EURACT), 1992
- Formal international society of teachers
- Opening to Central and Eastern Europe
- Country departments
- Individual membership
- WONCA Europe umbrella organization
- Projects participation
- Share of experiences
- Documents and statements
- Educational and scientific publications
- Educational courses
- Appraisal system
- Scientific conference on education
EURACT 2.0 ??? What are we missing?

- Sustainability of the results
  - Permanent commitment between the meetings
  - Local implementation
  - Continuing update
- Bigger impact
  - Country activities
  - Projects based work
  - Efficient communication
  - Increase of membership
  - Political involvement
- Academic recognition
  - Research on education in GP/FM
  - Scientific publications
  - Scientific events
  - Attraction of academic highflyers
  - Support for young talents
- Modern technology
  - Internet based tools
  - Social media
  - Digital techniques
- ?????

So, where are we going to?

**Small group feedback**

**Nynke**

If EURACT would not exist:

What we would miss as a person: inspiration, friendship

What would not happen that should happen?: the teaching agenda, the courses, and (I forgot to mention that, but it is really important):

work on academic position of FM and especially teaching FM and educational research.

**Nele**

"what would we miss":

- perspective
- networking
- examples / information - easily accessible
- sense of belonging, sense of importance (of FM)
- quick consultations
- space & time to be creative
- friendship
- European wide trustworthy contacts
• feeling of enthusiasm
• accessibility to expertise
• respect to differences - open minded attitude
• cultural intelligence and knowledge

"what would not happen that needs to happen": not be empowered
"what do we as council members need":
• support
• tools
• clarity
• information about changes at political European level with an impact on GP training

"what do local members need":
• sense of belonging
• materials/papers/EBM/...

Bruce

Going well in Swiss FM: undergraduate teaching is gaining momentum in all 5 universities, and therefore the image of FM as a career is markedly improving
Difficulties in Swiss FM: no structured curriculum, and minimal exposure to FM setting for trainees

No more Euract: will miss friends (of course) but also networking, the wider vision, the international support (both given and received)
Development of FM across all countries, identification of a solid common ground of the discipline amid all differences…

Roar

All 4 countries represented countries with rather few members (3 to 11) - and all 4 Council Members found EURACT was extremely important in creating better GP education across Europe - and the inspiration from Council Meetings and from other Council Members between meetings are spread into your own country - and ideas are taken from this forum and integrated in your local setting.
So you can say that EURACT is WONCA Europe’s educational committee. Therefore the actual number of individual members is not so important. Maybe it could be national colleges that were members?
All four in our group found that loss of EURACT would mean a great loss for European GP education!

Natalia

Positive trends
• Nobody is against Family Medicine
• Image of FDr is improving
• Many students consider to be FDr

Problems
• Lack of human resources (vary from country to country)
- Import/export of medical professionals – wave from East to West, from South to North, resulting in degradation of health care systems in poor countries.
- Politicians’ role in controlling this process in weak and unclear.
- High expectation from population side since Family medicine in well recognized in some countries (Estonia)
- New tasks attributed to GPs without support and M&E (Estonia, Moldova)

Solutions
Review of political systems and primary care regulations in different country to be aware about correspondence to EU recommendations

Sonata
Discussion participants: Slovakia, Latvia, Georgia, and Lithuania.

Main points of discussion:
1. During EURACT meetings the possibility to exchange of different level experience in family medicine is vital for family medicine development in all Europe.
2. EURACT is platform for rising of research ideas in family medicine teaching or educating.
3. EURACT members are very active and usually they cooperate with country health ministries on creating PHC policy documents, take part in family medicine curriculum formation in universities. The EURACT experience is very useful in such work.

Dimitrios
UK, GREECE, POLAND, ROMANIA, BULGARIA, MALTA, ITALY

1. What is going well with the development of fm? (this point was not discussed. By the way, some on the group made comments when their turn to speak came:)
   - GPs increasingly emerge, emulating vision and clear objectives (harmonized with European standards in education, training - and professional development)
   - Embrace more and more the necessity of proper and clearly defined training for both, trainees and trainers.
   - The prevailing trend is that unique and powerful weapon in such a challenge is education.

2. What are the difficulties...?
   - To change attitudes and behaviors, both politically and individually, in a context of health care systems with several problems (giving the title of GP in physicians with no vocational training, total absence of needs assessment and procedural evaluation for trainers-coordinators-trainnies-educational units, difficult to cooperate with other disciplines in an academic level, inter-discipline instability in several regions across the country ......resulting in quality loss)

3. What help do you need..???
   - Robust foundation of a harmonized training across any country and in Europe as a whole
   - To achieve this, there is a need of well-trained, certified teachers. (courses, conferences, educational materials, documentation)

4. If Euract no longer existed what would you miss?
   - "Guidance" through documented experience ...
- Partnership
- Problems sharing

5. what would not happen.....?
- Harmonization with the other European countries
- Constructive exchange of experience
- Development of specialty ultimately

6. what do you as council member need..........?
- The "spread" of the idea and philosophy characterizing EURACT in my country and also in all other EURACT member countries

7. what do your country members need........?
- support in education and training in their local workplace
- recognition by other specialties as certified educators in GP
Overall impressions
Amanda Howe

1. EURACT does many things well – useful definition of general has been cited for many years, standards for curriculum useful, encouragement and support to new educators and for countries where family medicine is early in development

2. Like WONCA, a ‘lean’ organization – mostly volunteers, dispersed, reliant on working between meetings for products and outputs

3. Key challenges raised about external context:
   a. Concerns re workforce – especially brain-drain from countries where terms and conditions are less good (e.g. Ukraine, Moldova…). Strategies to ‘recruit / retain / refresh’ the FM workforce may not be very effective if basic rewards and conditions of service are poor
   b. Similar tension between power of specialities versus status of existing GPs – younger doctors are concerned about going into a new / ‘unpopular’ speciality, especially if future earnings / employability is uncertain.

4. Wider picture (from AH keynote) – governments will come to support family medicine if they believe it will strengthen primary care, address universal health coverage, be cost-effective in meeting burden of clinical need, and is valued / trusted by the public - “accessible, affordable, effective, and accepted”

5. IMPORTANT TO BUILD EDUCATOR CAPACITY – at every level from undergraduate to postgraduate to CPD, also for other health workers as well as GPs

6. Suggestions for future EURACT strategy – external
   a. Continue to disseminate evidence about the importance of primary medical care in community to patient wellbeing, and link this with the importance of GP/FM educators
   b. Use links with organizations with a similar mission more effectively – notably WONCA / WONCA Europe / WONCA Working Party on Education (WPE)
   c. Issues around FM as a speciality across Europe are a recurring issue (minimum training, appropriate curriculum…) though attaining equivalence is a hard task

7. Suggestions for future EURACT strategy – internal
   a. Continue to set standards (also an interest of WPE)
   b. Focus on leadership development for GP educators – including thinking at political and systems level as well as local and organizational
   c. Focus on new members / areas where FM is underdeveloped or unstable.

8. Raising profile of EURACT
   a. Disseminate documents e.g. recent appraisal work (“could be showcased in WONCA news, happy to facilitate this)
   b. Having EURACT events at WONCA Europe (alternate with own conference?
9. Representational issues – important that the WONCA Member Organizations and the EURACT members link with each other: Aim to have one EURACT member per European country who has some agreed role to feed back to the MO in that country and also bring ideas, support for GP educators back into the organisation.