

**Meeting of the Council
of the European Academy of Teachers
in General Practice (EURACT)
*held in Maastricht, The Netherlands, April 10-13, 2002***

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Program of the Meeting

Wednesday 10 April 2002

Pre-Council Executive Board Meeting

Session 1: Country Reports

Thursday 11 April 2002

Session 2: Business meeting

Session 3 and 4: Small group meetings

Session 5: Reports from small group meetings

Saturday 13 April 2002

Session 6:

Report of the Meeting

Wednesday 10 April 2002

Pre-Council Executive Board Meeting

The Executive Board held before the Council Meeting discussed several issues and made decisions as well as proposals for the Council decisions in following matters:

- EURACT activities will be advertised during coming WONCA 2002 European Congress in London. There will be a booth run by Agnes Goethuys. EURACT will be responsible for her travel and hotel costs. No registration fee will be charged by the organisers. Prof. Heyrman will produce a new poster for the booth. There will be also 500 copies of new EURACT statements on selection of trainers printed for this event.
- The statement on trainer selection is going to be printed and published on the EURACT web-site. Printing will be done in Estonia. Agnes Goethuys is going to contact dr. Margus Lember and inform him about this decision. Printed copies will be distributed through national representatives.
- There is a shortage of travel reimbursement funds. Applications for the current meeting exceeded 3000 EURO. This time all the applicants will be paid on the old basis (90% of reimbursement), however for the second 2002 Council Meeting reimbursement may be lower. The applicants will be informed in advance by the treasurer about the level of reimbursement, calculated on the basis of actual applications received, keeping the annual limit of 6000 EURO.
- There was a misunderstanding about the country reports. Not all Council members produced the usual one and the response to the new questionnaire. So, the first session will have to be organised differently, beginning with 10 minutes discussion in pairs and then 60second reports to the plenary are to be organised. After 10 reports five minutes for clarification questions will be permitted. Dr. Adam Windak will be responsible for timing.
- Still there is no Portuguese Council Member. New efforts to attract one are going to be undertaken. In Russia there is conflict of interests between Moscow and St. Petersburg. The election procedure has been stopped, because the only one candidate received only one signature in support.
- Dr. Athanasios Simeonidis has informed about technical arrangements to organise a telephone conference through Internet. Only purchase of very simple equipment is needed and it would result in serious costs reduction. Panos is going to develop written instruction how to install the equipment and how to use it.
- According to the application of dr. Mladenka Vrcic-Keglevic, starting from 2003 the Dubrovnik course is going to be organised under the patronage of EURACT.
- Prof. Lesley Southgate is going to organise the course on assessment methodology. The course will consist of three parts, each run in different parts of Europe. These events will also be organised under the umbrella of EURACT.

Session 1: Country Reports

Dr. Justin Allen, President of the EURACT, welcomed all the present and thanked Prof. Harry Crebolder for hosting the meeting. Instead of normal reading of the country reports, pairs interviews were arranged and then reported to the Council. Written reports are still expected and will be attached to this Report as Annex 1 & Annex 1a.

Together with country reports, the data on the current situation in vocational training is planned to be collected this time. In future meetings other areas are planned (BME, CPD). The purpose of this exercise is to develop a current database on specific problems related to teaching in general practice in Europe, which can be put on the Web-site. Prof. Jan Heyrman presented the overview of the situation in Vocational Training in the form it has been existed until now. He asked for review and corrections. Based on it, a new version will be developed and put on the Web-site.

Dr. Justin Allen welcomed dr. Philip Evans □ President of WONCA Europe. He introduced the purpose of his participation as being to understand better the way of working of EURACT and identify the opportunities to use the results of EURACT work with the work of other networks and WONCA Europe. He thanked EURACT for the efforts taken to develop new definition of general practice and core competence documents. He announced that that both documents will affect future development of the discipline and are going to be published in one of the peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Evans wants also learn about the reaction of EURACT towards the statements included in the letter of Nordic Countries.

Thursday 11 April 2002

Session 2: Business meeting

- At the beginning new Council members introduced themselves and shortly described the background of general practice in their countries. Dr. Stefan Wilm spoke about the situation in Germany. Dr. Roar Maagaard described his work as a GP in a suburb of Aarhus in Denmark.
- Dr. Justin Allen shortly overviewed the report from Barcelona meeting, pointing out action points, especially those related to the London Conference.
- Short report from the European Society EB meeting was presented by its President. He stressed new, improving relationship with UEMO. Doubts are caused by the letter of Nordic countries considering too big role of the network organisations in the EB. This issue is going to be discussed further in London. Dr Evans reminded that the definition paper has still an internal status. It is going to be to be presented in London and published in form of a booklet available for all the colleges and university departments. Dr. Allen informed the Council about our contribution to the Noordwijk meeting which was aimed at review of the document by the colleges.
- Dr. Athanasios Simeonidis presented the new policy on reimbursement of travel costs □ 6000 EURO for 2 meetings a year. For the first meeting we exceeded the amount of 3000 EURO. This means that for Dublin meeting less than 3000 EURO will be available. Four weeks before the meeting all those seeking funding should inform the treasurer about the amount of money they

are going to apply for. Then the treasurer will calculate the percentage of reimbursement to be paid based on the amount available. This policy was approved by the Council.

- The treasurer presented the budget of the Council. The situation is relatively good, however we need to be careful with the expenditure. The budget overview is attached as an Annex 2.
- Dr. Allen presented the job description of the Council Member, developed during former meetings. It was reviewed and updated by the Executive Board and presented for formal approval to the Council. This formal policy is needed to solve problems with representation of some countries. This proposal was discussed by the Council Members, giving arguments pro and against strict regulations, which may result in exclusion of consistently absent members. Finally the Council approved the policy. The new job description is available as an Annex 3.
- In order to improve the relationships with national colleges the policy paper in this field was developed by the President. This paper stresses the needs for links to be established by every Council Member with his/her national college, university departments and network organisations in the country. Some of the members stressed that in their countries colleges are very unhappy with the current policy for election of the national representative. Dr. Allen answered that we are individual membership organisation and members who pay their fees should keep the right to elect their representatives. However still good working relationships with national colleges are needed. In order to consider this issue further a