

Annex 5

Reports of Standing Committees

**EURACT Council meeting
May 3-7, 2006
Turku, Finland**

Report of Basic Medical Education Committee

The BME committee met in Turku with Francesco Carelli, Job Metsemakers, Givi Javashvili, Anders Baerheim and Yonah Yaphe (chair and recorder). Aldolfo Rubenstein from WONCA IberoAmerica also attended as an observer.

The committee focussed on the early clinical exposure project. We are now conducting a survey of ECE in BME in Europe and used the time at the meeting to analyze results of the survey that have been received. To date we have responses from over 21 institutions in 15 countries. From a first look at the data there is wide variation in the objectives. Structure, content and outcomes of the various programs surveyed. There are some general trends in evidence especially in Nordic countries which have created programs for medical students to have contact with actual patients in clinical settings in the first year of medical school. Programs focus mainly on developing communication skills and an understanding of the patient's perspective.

In order to improve the response rate, committee members undertook to interview council members at the meeting. Several additional responses were obtained in this way. We will continue to receive e-mail responses till August. We will now begin to write up our findings and develop categories for the replies regarding objectives, structures and outcomes of ECE programs.

The second focus of the meeting was the workshop on ECE we will lead in Florence. We plan to present the results of our survey along with examples of successful ECE programs and a sample exercise used in one program for participants to experience themselves.

Committee members were pleased to welcome Givi as a new council member and appreciated the contribution of Dolfi as an active observer.

Yonah Yaphe MD

Report of Specific Training Committee

Present

Bernhard, Dolores, Fergus, Llukan, Margus, Monica, Mario, Olga, Roar, Smiljka, Roger.

Agenda

- Update on activity
- Plans for presentations at Wonca, Florence
- Development work
- Any other business

Survey of financial support

Monica and Bernhard presented chart of their Survey. Some countries have not yet been included as no feedback has been received, this will be followed up during the Council meeting. The data collected has highlighted enormous variation in the way GP Specialty training is funded in EURACT countries as salary for trainees, trainers or payment for formal education courses and group activity for trainees.

Discussion included the way in which Ireland has moved from a voluntary system to a fully funded programme, which took 27 years to achieve, although in Russia GP training is still entirely voluntary with trainees supporting themselves financially. We also noted that in a country with little training, the data from one council member may be accurate; when there is a lot of training in a country, there may be much variation in the different training programmes across that country, so we may need to ensure that the picture presented by a council member is representative of the whole country. The committee discussed how to present the results of this survey.

Data	All council members will be asked to check the chart during Council meeting to ensure their data is accurate. Monica and Bernhard will chase missing country data.
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Key points	Grouping of data will be put on graphs to highlight key similarities, differences, limitations.
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Action: Monica and Bernhard

We could consider how the survey was carried out and compare this with the recent work done by Yonah for the BME committee survey of Early Clinical Exposure.

Action: All Specialty Committee

Presentation Workshop planned for Florence, Abstract submitted. The data will be presented and discussion invited. It will be suggested that the results could be used by countries to seek political support for change.

Action: Monica, Bernhard, Dolores, Fergus, Roar and perhaps Mario

An invitation will be issued to Vasco da Gama Movement to seek views of trainees.

Action: Roger

The Abstract and presentation will be put on EURACT website.

Action: Roger

Recruitment and selection for training

Discussion of changes in recruitment and selection for training highlighted:

Political pressures on numbers (Switzerland)

Financial pressures on numbers (Malta and UK)

Female trainees who work well in groups (Ireland and Denmark)

Mostly female trainees, but no part-time training opportunity, (Serbia)

International Medical Graduates, about 50% (Sweden)

National MCQ done on a single day (Spain)

Presentation

Roger gave outline of workshop presentation for Florence. A colleague, Occupational psychologist may attend to present Evaluation of project. The current online recruitment will be demonstrated and video shown of exercises used in Selection process. If enough English speaking delegates attend, we may be able to have a practical “assessment” of the applicants shown in video.

Action: Roger

The abstract will be added to the EURACT website.

Action: Roger

Vasco da Gama Movement will be invited.

Action: Roger

Development work

Performance and Health of trainees

Dolores highlighted some recent concerns she had experienced with trainees in Spain. This generated discussion about how we address this subject.

Could we predict this in the selection of trainees?

How do we highlight a concern in training?

How do we deal with the trainee?

This was of particular concern as there is a tension between our pastoral role in supporting the trainee, whilst also protecting patients and training practices.

How do we ensure the ethical considerations of this subject are part of training? Perhaps we should look at the Educational Agenda.

Action: Specialty committee to look at Educational Agenda and discuss at next Council meeting.

Report of CME Committee

Report missing

Report of Member Services Committee

Present: Egle Zebiene, Justin Allen, Janko Kersnik, Adam Windak.

Chairman: Filipe Gomes

1. **Leonardo-EURACT course Caldas de Monchique, Portugal.**

Countries joining the Course are Portugal, Spain, Italy, Malta and Ireland. Each of these countries have selected 4 participants, with full costs (exception for travels) supported by the organization.

Another 18 participants joined in – 7 from Portugal, 2 from Malta, Romania, Iceland and Kazakhstan, 1 from Greece, Israel and Hungary each.

The faculty will be the same, exception for Filipe as Resource Person and group leader and Fergus as group leader.

Prospects are good, revenue are expected to be over 5 to 6 000 Euros.

2. **Leonardo-EURACT Course 2007.**

To be held in May 22- 25 May in Magglingen, Switzerland, organized by Bernhard Rindlisbacher.

Swiss Medical Association has agreed to take over the patronage for the Course and to pay half of the budget (Euro 5000). The other half of the budget has been guaranteed earlier by Bernhard.

Possible participant countries would be, besides Switzerland: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Croatia, Finland, Germany, France, Israel, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden and UK (Georgia had it already). Russia, Slovenia and Croatia should have priority. France has already declared interest during Vienna meeting. Countries interested in joining in should step forward in one month's time.

The frame will be similar to others, with groups of 4 teachers from each Country joining. Other individual participants will pay fee (400 €, 350 for EURACT members).

3. **Other Rolling Courses**

EURACT will not invest money in other Rolling Courses to become. However, the course can still be ran, providing volunteers step forward for the organization. There will be no need for fund-raising, as participants will pay for fee and accommodation.

If there are no volunteers, ideas are to have it anyway in a nice attractive place, organized by EURACT.

4. **Other Courses.**

Bled Course: EURACT will continue sponsorship for the Bled course for 5 teachers covering the amount of 500 €, announcing it in the website.

The 15th "Bled" Course will be held in Bled, Slovenia, September 19-23, 2006. Theme will be "Learning and teaching about Community Orientation in General/Family Practice".

Assessment Courses: Task Force to develop it. The frame will be similar to the rolling course, including the need for teams of 4 teachers from each country. Local organizers to raise approximately 5000, EURACT 6000 €.

Deadline for the first Assessment Course will be October 2007. Adam has shown interest as organizer for the first one, other Council Members interested should step forward.

4. Questionnaire to Members.

A questionnaire will be elaborated and addressed to all EURACT Members, to find their present feelings and situation towards EURACT, their needs and expectations, in order to assess further developments within EURACT.

Put in context by a short introduction, the Questionnaire will ask about interest in EURACT publications, use of website, interest on EURACT Courses, topics for courses, attendance and rating of EURACT activities during WONCA Conferences (workshops, general meetings), ideas for future development. It will be anonymous (naming only the country), centrally distributed, and analysed by MSC. Justin to draft it.

5. Implementation of the EURACT Educational Agenda (EEA).

Workshop in Firenze developed by Jan, with collaboration from Filipe, Francesco, Roger and Adam.

The Meeting on EEA, projected for the Praha meeting will possibly need to be postponed – eventually to the Zagreb Meeting. Mladenka to decide on this possibility.

6. EEA short version.

EURACT will produce an official short version of the EEA. There will be a new introduction, and it will be very practical and easy to use. Justin, Filipe and Francesco to prepare it, in connection with the EEA taskforce.

7. Website.

The Council will decide on who will edit the website. For the moment, Roger to be responsible.

8. WONCA 2006 Firenze.

There will be an input from EURACT to the Conference in 6 workshops and at least one k-note lecture.

EURACT will go on collaborating with Vasco da Gama movement, even under the difficult conditions in Firenze, providing 5 facilitators and 3 spares.

9. New members for MSC.

MSC in need of more members to carry on all activities – Justin is stepping out. We strongly recommend the presence of, at least, the Honourables Secretary and Treasurer.

10. Reports to members.

Reports will be made to EURACT members:

- Newsletter before WONCA Conference – summarizing EURACT activities like workshops, K note lectures and General Meetings;
- Short report after every Meeting.

These would be best prepared by the webmaster/web editor(s) and the Director of Communications.

ACTION POINTS:

- Bernhard to continue preparing 2007 Rolling Course

- Justin to prepare draft of the Questionnaire.
- Justin, Filipe and Francesco to prepare short version of EEA.
- Taskforce to work on Assessment Course.
- Prepare workshop for Firenze (Jan).
- Roger to start editing the Website.

2006/05/12, Luís Filipe Gomes