



EPA MINDS

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President's Editorial



The year 2011 was highlighted by record attendance at the 19th European Congress of Psychiatry held in Vienna, successful launch of the 1st EPA Summer School and fruitful preparation of future changes in the EPA Statutes, in consultation with the National Psychiatric Associations.

Following the success of 2011, we are expecting even more positive achievements for EPA in 2012. The major event of the year will certainly be the 20th European Congress of Psychiatry to be organised on 3-6 March 2012 in Prague (Czech Republic). In Prague we will not only celebrate 20 editions of the main scientific meeting of general Psychiatry in Europe, but will also vote for a new future of our association, which will transform itself into an organisation of both individual psychiatrists and National Psychiatric Associations, all enjoying full EPA membership.

The ultimate purpose of the changes in the EPA Statutes is to grant the psychiatric profession with a strong voice at European level through unifying all National Psychiatric Associations of Europe under the EPA umbrella. It is expected that this important initiative will open enormous opportunities for greater influence of psychiatrists on European mental health policies, better quality of psychiatric care and services, development of joint research and educational projects, and further harmonisation of psychiatric practices in Europe. Therefore I, as EPA President, together with the members of the EPA Executive Committee and the Board explicitly count upon the support of all EPA Individual members to this unprecedented move in the history of European Psychiatry!

Patrice Boyer, EPA President



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20th European Congress of Psychiatry: "Beyond Diversity towards Harmony"

EPA is pleased to welcome you to the 20th European Congress of Psychiatry from **3-6 March 2012**, in the beautiful city of **Prague** (Czech Republic).

Under the motto "Beyond Diversity towards Harmony", as a tribute to the EPA's growing influence in Europe, EPA will provide a multidisciplinary scientific content giving a full review of the most important aspects of diagnosis and treatment in psychiatry and of the latest achievements in this field. The scientific programme will include Plenary and State-of-the-Art lectures, Pro & Con Debates, Symposia, Workshops, e-Posters, a dedicated Early Career Psychiatrists' programme, EPA Academia CME courses and Satellite Symposia that are organised by leading pharmaceutical companies.

Learn more about the EPA2012 Prague Congress and build your personal Meeting Itinerary online at www.epa-congress.org!

European Psychiatric Network

The premiere online community for European mental health professionals

EPA is proud to announce the launch of the European Psychiatric Network - an online community where leading European mental health professionals including psychiatrists, psychologists, neurologists and neuroscientists can exchange important information.

This exclusive and dynamic online community provides its members the opportunity to exchange knowledge about psychiatry, network with colleagues, learn more about the annual EPA congress, and take

advantage of the added benefit of being a part of a vibrant online social network. Sign up to the Network at <http://europsychiatric.com>

Congress Highlights

One of the most important highlights of the congress will be the **European Forum** that will be organised on **5 March 2012**. The session consists of 2 parts under the title "Mental Health Care across Europe", and it will provide a scientific setting for the exchange of information and experiences between the various National Psychiatric Associations.

The **European Early Career Psychiatrists Programme (EECPP)** is especially tailored to the needs of the early career psychiatrists. It offers a rich scientific programme, discussing core issues of psychiatric training in Europe, including state-of-the-art topic of clinical and academic psychiatry, and offers the opportunity to interact with leading figures of European psychiatry.

Registration

EPA members are entitled to a special member registration fee saving up to 25% compared to regular registration fee. This special registration fee is available for new and renewing EPA members. In addition full-time students profit for the first time of a special Early Bird fee of 100€.

Early Bird registration closes on 9 January. To take advantage of the discounted rates, register now at www.epa-congress.org or contact EPA Congress Secretariat at reg_epa2012@kenes.com.

EPA meetings in Prague

As of 15 November, following internal meetings are planned during the EPA2012 Prague Congress:

Saturday 03.03.2012

12.00-16.00 Board meeting

Sunday 04.03.2012

08.15-09.45 Early Career Psychiatrists Committee Meeting

12.30-14.00 Early Career Psychiatrists Luncheon

14.30-16.00 Sections Coordination Meeting

18.45-21.45 Extraordinary General Assembly and General Assembly

Monday 05.03.2012

10.30-12.00 Committee on Education

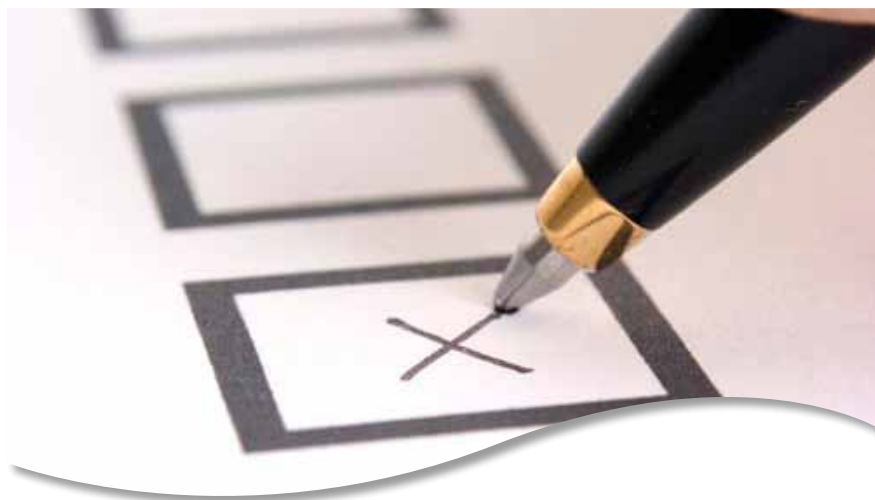
12.30-14.00 Academia Luncheon

Tuesday 06.03.2012

10:00-12:30 Meeting of the EPA Council of the National Psychiatric Associations

12.30-14.30 Committee on Ethical Issues





Corporate Membership : Changes in Statutes

The EPA Corporate membership is constantly increasing: already **28 National Psychiatric Associations** have opted to joint EPA as Corporate members. Furthermore, the expected changes in the EPA Statutes are aimed at reinforcing this relationship through transforming the Corporate membership into full membership of National Psychiatric Associations within EPA structure. According to the proposed draft of the revised Statutes, the EPA General Assembly will be composed of two Councils, one representing the Individual Members and the other representing the National Psychiatric Association members. The two Councils will vote with equal power on every important decision within the association, including Board elections, approval of the annual budget and reports, etc.

The revised Statutes will be submitted for vote to the **EPA Extraordinary General Assembly**, which will be organised during the 20th European Congress of Psychiatry in Prague March 2012.

Current projects

Two important projects have been launched by EPA in collaboration with the National Psychiatric Associations:

- European catalogue of e-learning tools in Psychiatry.

The creation of this catalogue is intended to provide European psychiatrists with a guide on existing online educational resources. This project is developed by the EPA Committee on Education, which will analyse data provided by the National Psychiatric Associations in order to make a comprehensive assessment of existing e-learning opportunities.

- Survey on state of Ethics in European Psychiatry

This survey is conducted by the EPA Committee on Ethical Issues with the aim to provide a complete overview on the current situation in Ethics experienced by European psychiatrists. The results of the survey will be presented during the symposium on "Ethics in European Psychiatry" organised during the 20th European Congress of Psychiatry in Prague March 2012.

EPA Academia for Excellence in European Psychiatry

Faculty Workshop

The 2nd EPA Academia Faculty Workshop took place on 14 October 2011 in the EPA Headquarters in Strasbourg (France), and gathered in a friendly and constructive atmosphere the directors and co-directors of the EPA CME courses that will be organised at the 20th European Congress of Psychiatry in Prague March 2012.

As in the last year, the workshop was effectively facilitated by Dr. Rosie Luszkat and Prof. Colin Coles from the University of Winchester (United Kingdom). The main objective of the 2nd Faculty Workshop was to elaborate on **how to increase the effectiveness of the CME courses evaluation process**, including evaluation of a course relevance to its participants' needs, estimating value created by the course, establishing ranking of EPA CME courses, further improving courses quality through peer review, etc.

As a result of vivid discussions, some important proposals were made, which will be summarized in Guidelines, soon to be available on EPA website.

2nd EPA Summer School



Further to an extremely successful launch of the first EPA Academia Summer School organised on 6-9 July 2011 in Nice (France), EPA is pleased to announce that the second EPA Summer School will take place on **5-8 July 2011 in Strasbourg (France)**, under the auspices of the **Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mr Thorbjørn Jagland**. Strasbourg was selected to host this educational event not only because it is a capital of united Europe but also due to its symbolic significance for EPA: place of creation of the association and location of its headquarters.

The second Summer School will focus on the problem of comorbidity between mental and physical disorders as its first edition, but with different sub-topics, since this issue has proved to be very important though less covered in psychiatric training curricula.

Please contact summerschool@europsy.net for more information, or visit the EPA website www.europsy.net/academia/summerschool.

Forum of European Young Psychiatrists in Sorrento

"New Directions in Psychiatry", a special Forum dedicated to European early career psychiatrists is going to be organised in Sorrento (Italy) on 23-25 May 2012, under the auspices of EPA.

The Forum will cover the most salient aspects of our discipline, which are likely to change in the upcoming years and will probably constitute the most relevant items of an early career psychiatrists' agenda for the next decades.

During the Forum, many internationally-renowned experts in the field of mental health will interact with young colleagues by providing plenary lectures, CME courses, participating in open discussions, chairing poster sessions and joining in workshops and forums.

Moreover, the new directions in management and treatment of the three major mental disorders - schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression - will be discussed in dedicated sessions.

Q&A

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

You have Questions

Members

Why did I receive EPA membership call for fee 2012 already in September?

EPA membership fee runs from January to December. By paying it early, you will benefit from a special discount on your registration fees to EPA Congress. Therefore, you receive the first call for membership fee in September to give you the chance to register with the members' discount and the early bird fee.

Where can I find the directory of members?

EPA directory of members can only be consulted in the members' only area of <http://www.europsy.net>. You have to be logged in on your account first. Please note that EPA directory includes only members who are registered online.

Is there a special event for EPA members?

Yes, EPA members can participate in the General Assembly of members and in the Membership Roundtable Dinner. Those events are held during EPA Congress. To participate, you must have paid the membership fee of the actual year.

The roundtable dinner is a nice way to get in touch with other EPA members.

The General Assembly makes EPA members be active in the life of the association by giving them the chance to give their opinion by voting on EPA reports on activities and management.

EPA is attentive to its members' opinion. Your contribution to improve EPA membership is welcome. Do not hesitate to send us your comments or wishes at epa.membership@europsy.net



News from Section activities

Study of Gene-environment Interactions

2012 Joint conference of the EPA section Epidemiology and Social Psychiatry and the European Network of Schizophrenia Networks for the Study of Gene-environment Interactions (EU-GEI).

The section is preparing a joint conference with the EU-GEI, which will take place in Maastricht, Netherlands, from 13-16 June 2012. For further information, please visit www.epa-epidemiology2012.eu/

News from NPAs

3rd French Congress of Psychiatry

The 3rd French Congress of Psychiatry is organised on 7-10 December 2011 in Lille (France), under the auspices of EPA. At this occasion, Prof. Marco Sarchiapone and Dr. Vladimir Carli will give an EPA Academia CME course on "Suicide Risk Assessment". EPA will be present with a booth. For more information, please visit the congress website www.congresfrancaispsychiatrie.org/.

III Congress of Psychiatrists of Bosnia-Herzegovina

The Psychiatric Association of Bosnia-Herzegovina (PABH) organises on 10-13 October 2012 in City of Tuzla (Bosnia-Herzegovina) the III Congress of Psychiatrists of Bosnia and Herzegovina with International participation. Main Theme of the Congress will be "Psychiatry between Phenomenology and Neuroscience". For more information, please visit the PABH website www.upubih.com



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