**EAHIL COUNCIL MEETING**

Dublin, 3 June 2009


Present
Severine Spronck  (Belgium), Vinciane de Bergeyck  (Belgium), Dana Zdenkova (Czech Republic), Conni Skrubbeltrang  (Denmark), Jouni Leinonen  (Finland), Katri Larmo  (Finland), Tuulevi Ovaska (Finland), Guillemette Utard-Wlerick  (France), Friedhelm Rump  (Germany & EVLG), Anne M. Obyrne  (Ireland), Muriel Haire (Ireland), Niamh Lucey  (Ireland), Federica Napolitani (Italy & HILJ ), Gaetana Cognetti (Italy), Laura Tei  (Italy), Velta Poznaka  (Latvia), Jurate Stukiene (Lithuania), Ronald van Dieen  (Netherlands), Gerdien de Jonge  (Netherlands), Jacqueline Limpens (Netherlands), Karen Johanne Buset  (Norway), Barbara Niedzwiedzka  (Poland), Margarida Meira  (Portugal), Matjaz Musek  (Slovenia), M.F. Fanny Ribes Cot  (Spain), Birgitta Stevinger  (Sweden), Ingrid Harnemo  (Sweden), Gussun Gunes  (Turkey), Marshall Dozier  (UK & coopt Board), Michelle Wake  (UK & PhInG), Carol Lefebvre  (UK), Ivana Truccolo  (Board), Arne Jakobsson  (Board), Helena Bouzkova  (Board), Pirjo Rajakiili  (Board), Suzanne Bakker  (Board), Lotta Haglund (Board), Maurella Della Seta  (MeSH), Paivi Pekkarinen  (PHISIG), Sue Thomas (PHISIG), Kate Kelly (Web tools taskforce),  Katri Larmo (Web tools taskforce), Guus van den Brekel (Web tools taskforce)

Apologies
Constantin Cazan  (Austria), Lea Skoric (Croatia), Hanne Christensen  (Denmark), Sigrid Prank (Estonia), Helene Vaillant  (France), Marie Teissier (France), Oliver Obst  (Germany), Artemis Chaleplioglou  (Greece), Judit Szabo Szavay  (Hungary), Margarita Zelve  (Latvia), Silvia Ciubrei  (Moldavia), Anne-Cathrine Overskott (Norway), Hilde Stromme  (Norway), Arminda Sustelo  (Portugal), Ioana Robu (Romania), Viorica Scutariu  (Romania), Larisa Zhmykhova  (Russian Federation), Juan de la Camara  (Spain), Eva Alopaeus  (Sweden), Minielle Brasey (Switserland), Tomas Allen  (Switzerland), Gunbrit Knutssoen (MeSH), Bruce Madge (MLA representative), Becky Lyon  (MLA, NLM representative), Giovanna Miranda (PhInG), Sally Wood Lamont  (Editor JEAHIL), Benoit Thirion  (Board), Manuela Colombi  (Board),

1.      Welcome
Suzanne Bakker (SB), President, welcomed everyone to the 2009 EAHIL Council meeting.

2.      Round-table introductions
All present introduced themselves.

3.      Minutes of the 2008 Council meeting in Helsinki
The minutes of the 2008 Council meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

4.      President's Report
SB tabled a report summarised several points: the administration of EAHIL is running smoothly; Membership is over 1300 and is growing despite natural leavers;  Web and internet tools – discussion lists, web site, web database; several new Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are now established; we have good contact with organisations such as MLA and LIBER, and EAHIL was represented at the Scientific publishing in Medicine and the Pan-European public health conferences – this representation helps to raise the profile of the library profession.
SB announced the successful bids for EAHIL congresses following Lisbon 2010:

- 2011 Workshop – Istanbul in early July
- 2012 Conference – Brussels in early July

5.      Report from Registry task force
SB described the aim of an EAHIL professional certification/checklist is to help individuals develop professional development plans. In the future, this could be part of a certification scheme.
A web-based survey instrument has been created by a task force to develop such a checklist. At present, the questionnaire does not yet really elicit evidence of knowledge, skills and experience. To achieve this, some members are using CertiDoc, but it is felt that CertiDoc may be overly bureaucratic.

6.      EAHIL Web Tools
Guus van den Brekel (GB) introduced fellow taskforce members Lotta Haglund, Kate Kelly and Katrin Larmo and gave apologies from Oliver Obst and Benoit Thirion. The taskforce remit to look at web tools to enable members to better communicate, collaborate, and share, and to develop a coherent strategy for EAHIL. The taskforce has performed a survey to discover what tools are currently used by EAHIL members, and would like to do further research by asking for input from Council and SIG members. The taskforce would also like to collect information about organisations restricting use of social networking tool to enable discovery of acceptable alternatives. GB presented three topics for discussion for Council

What tools could be used; what is used already for…

- Group 1 Internal communication within EAHIL e.g. Board, Council, SIGs, general
- Group 2 External communication – how can EAHIL use web tools to promote, lobby, communicate
- Group 3 Tools for education and development – a place to exchange information and experience on tools, perhaps emulating "23 things" (http://plcmcl2-things.blogspot.com/)

7.      Discussion groups
Council divided into four groups to discuss ways forward for the Registry and Web tools and then reformed to report back on discussions. Break-out group discussion summaries:

Registry sub-group discussion report
The group had discussed form of the current questionnaire and proposed a number of amendments:
- Suggest move to rating scale response format instead of only Yes/No
- Include definitions of terms to improve clarity of meaning
- Translate to other languages to improve accessibility
- Add space for feedback on questionnaire to receive further comments
The group discussed the purpose of the questionnaire
- Not to create diploma of medical librarianship
- To allow individuals to make a full and private profile of their skills
- To allow individuals to identify professional development goals
- To create guidelines on job descriptions
- To generate information to support advocacy of library profession

Web Tools – Internal communication group discussion report:

The aim of tools is to improve communication within groups and between all members. Currently, it can be difficult to find information about EAHIL – should the distributed websites be aggregated in a content management system? Also, email is not always good as a communication tool, because it is sometimes difficult to retrieve information from emails. Web-based tools are easier, with content easier to access, but a more dynamic system is desirable. Any tools should be chosen also for an ability to secure access. There does remain an issue of employers blocking access to Web2 tools. The group proposed that there should be a communications officer, and endorsed the Task force, provided it has clear terms of reference.

Web Tools – External communications group discussion report:
The EAHIL web pages need a content management system or wiki that allows different groups update information. It is very important that front page remains public facing, and along with the recently developed leaflets and JEAHIL, could be part of a marketing strategy. The web pages could be improved by having links to blogs or feeds, regular columns, events better highlighted, and an index.
The group also discussed use of tools of such as FaceBook as marketing tools: Slideshare could be used for conference/workshop slides; ready-made slides with basic information about EAHIL could be provided for the use of members representing EAHIL; presentations could be captured and available in YouTube. The usefulness of tools like Twitter should be explored, but we should be cautious about depending too much on tools with limited use or sustainability.

Web Tools – Teaching & Learning on the web group discussion report:
The group found that everyone is experimenting and compiled a list of what is being used. Web 2.0 tools would facilitate better sharing and collaboration, but it takes time to learn how to use these tools. We could adapt "23 Things" model to medical library context for professional development purposes and to share learning objects.
We need to be aware of how learning styles may affect uptake, of e.g. You Tube being blocked in some countries, and the difference between personal and professional use. Other issues are these tools' relation to VLEs (virtual learning environments), and how to get them to work together. It is important to try these tools and learn from students.
We should capture information on reasons for non-use from those who have tried new tools.

SB thanked the Council for a productive discussion and asked the two taskforces to set out their priorities and project plans, and to report back to the membership.


7.      Individual councillor news and reports

Vinciane de Bergeyck - Belgium – there will be a special day for medical libraries from Francophone Belgium to report back from the EAHIL workshop.

Anna O'Byrne Ireland – EAHIL activities are reported in Irish medical libraries organisations.

Paivi Pekkarinen – at IFLA in Milan, the health sciences group will have a consumer health information session.

9.      Any other business

SB reported that SIGs on patient health information and complementary and alternative medicine had been proposed.

SB stated that the Board will support the creation of a new SIG if there is evidence of sufficient interest, with a plan, and two people identified as Chair and Secretary. There is no financial support for SIGs. All members of SIGs should be members of EAHIL. It will be possible in future to select SIGs using the membership database profile.

SIGs should submit reports to JEAHIL for the next copy deadline of 1 July 2009