

Minutes of the WPA epidemiology public health section meeting the 15 of september 2014 in Madrid

Attending :D.Regier( USA), W.Narrow (USA), T.Brugha (UK), R.Tempier (Canada) , L.Degenhardt (Australia) ,T.Schulze (Germany), M.Amering (Austria), V Kovess (France)  
Absent but on site and consulted: N.Sartorius (Switzerland), H.Herrman (Australia), O.Gureje (Nigeria), S.Martin (USA)

1) Report on the coming soon section meeting in Japan (Nara)

Actually they are 200 persons who registered; half of them from an international audience

The program was circulated on a printed manner around the participants and judged very interesting and truly international

2) Since a business meeting will be held in Nara a call has to be circulated to invite new persons to candidate to become members so they could be presented and accepted at the Nara meeting; actually they are approximately 100 members belonging to the section and most of them did reply to the business meeting announcement although only few of them attended the Madrid WPA meeting but we have to keep moving and integrating new members

3) Situation concerning future election

The actual committee is composed of V.Kovess (President) P.Bebington (Vice president), L.Andrade (general secretary and treasurer), J.Murphy, T.Brugha, A.Cheng, M.Oakley Browne, M.Tansella

The committee has been nominated for six years (two terms of three years) ending in October 2015; so most of the members (except V.Kovess) could stay for three additional years

The participants were informed on this and suggest to largely renew it with new members ;T.Brugha will accept to stay for an additional three years as committee member but not in president or such position in order to assure the follow up so we have seven members to nominate among them minimally president, vice president (not mandatory) general secretary, treasurer .

The modalities will have to follow the by laws which is to call for candidatures from people whose acceptance was warranted before circulating the slate; since V.Kovess could not be candidate to any position she will be part of the nomination committee together with another member and she will ensure that the candidates agreed to be active and organise future meetings and represent the different world regions .vote will be electronic to insure a large participation; WPA is actually organising the electronic votes so we will follow their rules

4) 2016 meeting

T.Schulze made a proposal to host the meeting in Munich in 2016 ; we will have to determine the suitable period; the meeting will be held together with his section on genetic so the theme will be on genetic epidemiology

This was unanimously considered as a very interesting proposal by the present members (including those in Madrid who could not participate to the business meeting)

D.Regier and W.Narrow propose to focus on “case identification” since actually many genes are proposed but phenotypes are lacking and epidemiology could

help to bring in elements ; on the other hand most of epidemiologic surveys are collecting genetic material

Of course the meeting will not be a “genetic” meeting since we do not have the credibility and this is not the purpose of our section; this will be an epidemiologic public health oriented meeting around the role of genetic and what epidemiology could bring in the field of genetics and reversely what genetics bring to epidemiology and public health

M.Amering proposed to make a sympo on perception of mental health genetic data by the public and its role into the public health approach of such results

The meeting was closed down the next one will take place at Nara in October  
Last new one of our member H.Herrman was elected as WPA president so we should have high visibility in the future thanks to her.