Participants were:
Vivienne Miller, Alan Rosen, Richard Warner, George Szmukler, Peter Huxley, John Sadler, Elvia Velasquez, Marta Rondon, Unaiza Niaz, Michael Krausz, Michaela Amering

Excused: Roy Kallivayalil, Peter McGeorge, Dusica Lecic-Tosevski, Annie Lau, Gabriela Cruz, Helen Herrman, Levent Kuey, Roberto Mezzina, Wolfgang Rutz

Section activities at the 2013 Vienna congress included section symposia on ‘Diversion of people with mental illness and substance abuse disorders away from prison incarceration’ with Richard Warner (USA), Ingrid Sibitz (A) and Michael Krausz (CAN) as well as on Non-Discrimination – concept and impact on mental health with Chairperson Michaela Amering (A) and speakers Norman Sartorius (CH), Marianne Schulze (A), George Szmukler (UK), Levent Kuey (Turkey).

After the amendment of the WPA Madrid Declaration with the WPA Recommendations on best practice in working with service users and carers we had decided to to use the experiences of the present group of section members to come up with a ‘How to involve users and carers in congresses’. Vivienne Miller presented key issues from Purpose to Financing, Different Forms of Organizing (local versus international users, imbedded, thematic stream, pre-conference,…) and current developments such as web conferences and their implications.
George Szmukler reports on the example of the UK MH Research Network http://www.mhrn.info/.


Allen Rosen’s project on "The Case for an Apology from all mental health professions to all indigenous peoples for past inappropriate psychiatric practices and excessive incarcerations" is attached in its latest version. It’s a paper of great interest regarding the policies of apology in general and specifically. It was suggested to offer it to Mario Maj, editor of World Psychiatry, for publication and possible debate in the journal. The latest version is attached.

The current discussions regarding the impact of CRPD on mental health and other legislation as well as possible practice implications receive attention, especially in the light of the 2013 report of the UN Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Juan E. Méndez, and the responses like the one from WMA and debates. Michaela will keep in contact with the WPA section on Psychological Consequences of Torture and Persecution concerning the interpretation of the Mendez report. Michaela will find out whether WPA has published a statement in this regard.

George Szmukler reports on the development of the suggestion of ‘Fusion law’ and efforts to make MH laws consistent with the CRPD with special considerations of low and middle income countries. Please find Szmukler G, Daw R, Callard F. Mental health law and the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities. Int J Law Psychiatry. 2013 Nov 23. pii:
Today’s meeting was honoured by the presence of board members of the **WPA section on Women’s Mental Health** – Marta Rondon, Elvia Velasquez, and chair Unaiza Niaz. Michael Krausz presented his plans of the **Intersectional Initiative (ISI) on Addiction and Concurrent Disorders Among Vulnerable Urban Populations** - att. It received full support with many ideas and discussions on topics that concern vulnerable female and other vulnerable populations. Suggestions in the discussion included searching collaboration with the WPA section on children’s mental health, on rehabilitation and on prevention as well as the sections on addiction and dual diagnosis respectively. The prison population is also noted as particularly vulnerable. The inclusion of economists and their expertise is encouraged. An Intersectional Consensus Statement is suggested as a goal of first efforts.

Eliot Sorel was unfortunately unable to join us with his update on the Affordable Care Act. Please find att. his publication on ‘**The Affordable Care Act in Context**’

Also, find enclosed the announcement of the **WPA Section on Epidemiology and Public Health 2014 Meeting** in Nara, Japan, October 14-18. [www.wpaepi2014.umin.jp](http://www.wpaepi2014.umin.jp)

Several section as well as intersectional activities have been submitted for the **World Congress of Psychiatry in Madrid in 2014**. Deadline has been extended to January 7, 2014.

The 14th World Congress of Psychiatry will take place from September 14-18 at Feria de Madrid and will host **our next section meeting**.

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_for the minutes:_

_Amering_

_Deckember 2013_