



Network for Education
in International Health

Minutes: tropEd General Assembly Meeting

27th to 29th January 2011

Université Victor Segalen Bordeaux2, 146 rue Léo Saignat, 33076 Bordeaux Cedex, France

Meeting venue: Golf du Medoc Hotel&Spa

Participants:

Stuart Anderson (SA), LSH&TM
Matthias Borchert (MB), Berlin
Nuria Casamitjana (NC), Barcelona
Lorraine Dardis (LD), UCL
Deborah Didio (DD), Bordeaux;
Suzanne Fustukian (SF), Edinburgh
Nicolas Goujon (NG), Bordeaux
Govert van Heusden (GvH), Antwerpen;
Axel Hoffmann (AH), Basel;
Josep Jansà (JJ), Barcelona;

Steffen Kratochwill (SK), student repr.
Laura Magaña (LM), Cuernavaca;
Denis Malvis (DM), Bordeaux
Odd Morkve (OM), Bergen
Bernadette Peterhans (BP), Basel
Natascha Petersen (NP), Heidelberg;
Pascall Millet (PM), Bordeaux;
Prisca Zwanikken (PZ), Amsterdam;
Sabrina De Nardi (SDN), Brescia;
Shirley Pollak (SP), Copenhagen;

Guests:

Rainer Sauerborn, Heidelberg (EAGHA)
Annelies Wilder-Smith, Heidelberg
François Dabis, Università Bordeaux 2
Curt Löfgren, Umeå University
2 additional members of Umeå University: Malin Eriksson, Lars Weinehall

14 full members, 1 collaborating institute,

Thursday, 27 January 2011

tropEd Executive Committee Meeting

Participants: AH, LM, GvH, NC and LD

- The tropEd work plan was finalized based on the discussion from last meeting in Stockholm. Priority has to be given to the revision of the website. As the offer from Copenhagen seems to be quite expensive (especially the recurrent costs), an offer from Cuernavaca will be asked for.
- For the October GA meeting 3 half days for tropEd seems to be sufficient. The GA will start after the congress and will be held on 7 and 8 October in Barcelona. tropEd might be represented in two sessions: Embracing pluralism: networks – tropEd invented: look how networks can interact and collaborate? And in a session on education and capacity building
- EUROLIFE international health alliance, an UK global health education network (undergraduate global health education) part of EAGHA, wants to approach us (tropEd) ... starting undergraduate medical network in Europe. SA is part of it...
- EAGHA co-chairs: Andy Haines and Antoine Flahault. Antoine Flahault (ASPHER president) is pushing too much ASPHER as umbrella. EUPHA seems to be much better appropriate as an umbrella network, but the decision is already taken. The foreseen role of ASPHER as an accreditation body is valued as not appropriate. The model of the US clearly shows that besides an association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) you need an independent accreditation body (CEPH).
- Definitely the links from tropEd to EU is weak and have to be improved.
- Seven modules for (re-)accreditation are shared between EC members (see list in annex)

Quality Assurance Standing Committee Meeting

Chair: BP

- QA group should review the year plan 2011 in light of log frame and 5 year-plans. A separate meeting of a QA group should always be held in February or March each year. In the September meeting a draft for a plan for the following year should be presented to GA, which can then be agreed in the January meeting. In May meetings the plan of the last year could be evaluated against the log frame.
- BP: activities are currently in a 5-year time frame, now we have to check whether activities contribute to indicators, (and activities from log frame difficult to place in a 5-year plan: e.g. checking national accreditation status)
- Accreditation check could be in the yearly report from member institutions! (AH)
- Focus on year plan with clear responsibilities.

The following plan for 2011 will be suggested to the GA:

- Website revision: either Mexico and Copenhagen (Copenhagen too expensive)
- 23rd of February 2011 decision on leaflet and website and paraphernalia by EC members
- Discussion: role of QA committee: programme of network, QA growing too much, taking over tasks of the GA! All GA members in QA subgroups for specific tasks – workgroups (logframe follow up) meeting before joint programme with mini QA's groups. GA is a legislator; in small working groups people are more free. So we should define who is in there or better who takes the lead (focal persons) ; manage the work-flow prepare and chair the discussion in the GA.
- Alumni questionnaire (results for October, results must be there – send to Lisanne - earlier)
- Thematic track inventory
- Content discussion must come back to the GA (assessment of class participation with LD and SF)
- Revision job description secretariat
- Office report May 2011
- Stakeholder concept paper (how to make the master more relevant) more for 2013-2014
- Hierarchy of documents
- Annual report from the members (May 2011)
- Monitoring of indicators log frame and 5-year plan
- Exit interviews (at finalizing the MIH)
- Criteria for becoming a full member (process & criteria)
- Preparation of 7th ECTMIH conference in BCN (to be prepared by 3 people)
- Transfer of secretariat
- Re-accreditation of members (refresh the discussion)
- External evaluation (ToR) and date?

Subtopics:

- Membership issues (full member, member re-accreditation)
- Bringing content discussions in GA (thematic track inventory, content sessions, alumni survey)
- Planning cycle (log frame, checking indicators, yearly work plan proposals)
- PR & network development (strategy paper, stakeholder, external evaluation, relation to EAGHA)
- Preparing ECTMIH (tropEd slot, network session attendance)
- Recognition issue

First and second responsible person to be agreed for every topic.

To be presented in GA by BP (not in a QA member capacity)

tropEd General Assembly Meeting

Chair: AH

- 1) On behalf of the University of Bordeaux 2 PM welcomed the participants of the meeting and opened officially the GA.
- 2) Review of meeting agenda and of minutes of the Stockholm meeting (AH): The meeting agenda was accepted without dissenting vote or abstention. The minutes of the Stockholm meeting (23 – 25 September 2010) are approved without dissenting vote or abstention.
- 3) Election of tropEd Secretariat hosting institution (AH): On-line voting was done in December 2010. Out of 27 partner institutes, 24 voted, all in favour of the move. The present members voted without dissenting vote or abstention for moving the secretariat to Basel.
- 4) Financial issues (AH)
 - Membership's payments outstanding for Cape Town, which has to be clarified by PM and AH. The missing membership fee for Barcelona was due to an account number error. SF mentioned that a change of membership fees should only be done with one year notice to avoid budgeting problems. AH mentioned that the decision was taken in a GA meeting, in which Edinburgh was not represented, but the decision was communicated in the respective minutes.
 - Travel costs for AY has been transferred twice – reimbursement will appear in 2011 accounts only.
 - 2 persons are needed to check the bills (Kassenprüfer in German law): The GA delegated NP and JJ
 - Budget 2011 (see annex 2): some money can be used to invite somebody to the Barcelona conference/meeting; a small budget is foreseen for PR material; some more means are needed for the lawyer to make suggestions for the statutes, the financial office business, etc.; overall the network is financially healthy (see annex 3). The GA members congratulated and agreed without dissenting vote or abstention to the suggested budget.
- 5) tropEd recognition (GvH): QA working group in Berlin will elaborate on criteria for first degree for recognition. AH mentioned, that the core course in Basel leads to a first university degree (University Professional or Diploma of Advanced Studies), therefore it has to be handed-in by the students, if they continue AND finish the Masters programme.
- 6) Presentation of Umeå :Epidemiology and Global Health, Department of Public Health and

Clinical Medicine, applying for tropEd membership: Curt Löfgren, Malin Eriksson and Lars Weinehall presented the study programme and the university (see annex 4).

Questions and answers:

- What is a non-EU student in Umeå? In fact non-EFTA
 - What about international opportunities for current students at Umeå? Not so present in current programme, because large majority of students on programmes are from Asia and Africa. If there were more Swedish students, this would be developed.
 - What is logic behind two different degrees? One-year degree was there first. Following Lisbon Treaty, opened up possibility for 2-year degree for students who need to complete 5-year's higher education.
 - Sweden does not have post-grad level—has grad and PhD level.
 - Teaching in English? Yes.
 - How are you attracting so many students? Many years of collaboration with Swedish development agency.
 - Distinction between post grad and grad? Do people need to have work experience? No. But give preference to students who have work experience.
 - Do the staff listed cover all of the Masters and PhD students? Yes. Prof focus more on PhD and Senior Lecturers on teaching Masters.
 - Swedish Research School for Global Health? Is a doctoral school, jointly with KI.
 - Comment RS: Umeå has very strong and established collaborations with developing countries. Also strong on chronic diseases. Programme needs to change more into a modular programme.
 - Comment: Anna Lise: Umeå is very strong on the research site.
 - What would you get from this network? What type of migration do you expect? Have to develop the programme—one way is to collaborate more closely. Would expect even exchange of students.
 - Comment MB: It should be kept in mind, that if Umeå has no or only little fees for modules, Berlin is not in favour for having another member in the network, which whom many members can not compete in this issue. It should be clarified, that Umeå sends also students out for taking modules.
- 7) Presentation of EAGHA (European Academic Global Health Alliance) by RS (see annex 5). The presentation raised a lot of discussions, which were continued in the following days. In general, tropEd is willing to collaborate with EAGHA, but the terms of references and procedures have to be clarified in meetings of both EC. NC will take care of this issue.
- 8) Presentation of Bordeaux School of Public Health (ISPED) (*Prof. François Dabis*)

End of session of first day

Friday, 28 January 2011

Morning session, chair: LD

9) Discussion and comments on EAGHA presentation

- LM: need to have the voice of the South on board, with equal representation, like in tropEd.
- RS: Is it bad to have a European focus within Global Health? Focus on directing funding within Europe. Look at common issues: climate change, etc. But look at aging populations: North has advantage in experience addressing it. Have European identity. Is a nascent group. How to partner? Take someone on the board? Rather have partnerships between parallel bodies.
- GvH: objectives of EAGHA are about LMIC but this contradicts 'Europe' approach.
- PW: what sparked formation of group? There is more than EU funding e.g. Global Fund, local government spending people abroad.
- AH: positive aspects: correct to say that we were not successful in tropEd to build in Eastern Europe—one possible synergy. tropEd has also weak point to link with admin and policy levels in EU. Positive area for collaboration with other networks.
- NC: Federation of networks—wants to expand to global level.
- MB: not sure agrees with 'colonialist' characterization: question is how to collaborate with orgs outside. Is not just about getting EU funds, but also influencing EU policy.
- RS: not which is better—a lot of overlap in networks—but does it make sense to have Euro voice in policy in Brussels? They are asking 'what is your European voice?'
- Should it not be seen as complementary? Does collaboration make sense? Education agenda is bigger than tropEd covers. We do not give political training in intl health. Discussion France and Mexico year—conference on aging. How we can fit within a global network that wants to be voice of Europe—first we need to look at tropEd and take stock of what we are, our objs, etc.
- SP: one voice of Europe is actually diverse. If EU wants one voice only, this could closeout other voices. Focus right now seems to be public health, but global health is much bigger than this, eg political science. Filtering aspect is worrying.
- PM: in Europe we talk too much and do not act enough. tropEd common agenda in education and training. Developing tools to teach international health.
- AH: tropEd has differing opinions but we have agreed mission.
- JJ: counter part to what US is doing. How to be inclusive in alliance—all voices have same rights and opportunities to lobby, etc. trying to understand what is added value to everyone who might be involved, not just the big names, top ten.
- PZ: good chance to evaluate tropEd and where we are. Why no Eastern European partners? Quality has not been there yet. But now putting clear quality tools in place through tropEd. Focus on Masters only true—and we need to look at this. As tropEd we have not been able to make a voice but we are doing the work. If we talk about global health, need to be inclusive. We are learning from our Southern partners, learning together.
- NC: institutional membership of network is not that different. Representatives are different, but

this is opportunity to work together. In US big movement for Global Health—most demanded subject in all fields. Is basically North American but open to everyone to join. Agree with focus on EU side. EAGHA wanted to go very fast—new leaflet, etc. meeting in Brussels was not just directors—many young people. Spirit of meeting was to give voice to younger people with new ideas and different backgrounds. Opportunity to work together. Can have common meetings about what we want to see happen at different educational levels. Other networks have already joined. tropEd has to be there. Big chance to collaborate and look for synergies. We do not have to exclude anyone.

- Stuart: tropEd historically the “child” of TropMed. First alliance meeting in London—directors coming together for one voice in Europe. ASPHER connection is one concern. Schools of PH see it as opportunity to get into Global Health. Real commitment from directors to do something. Concern about point made by NC—directors not quite there as they were. But perhaps we need the single voice coming from the directors of institutions involved in the network? If it becomes a much more dispersed alliance—will it have the same voice?
- NC: directors still behind it.
- RS: common voice is really needed. Europe is different than US—much more experience with North South partnerships.
- AH: conference by phone or in person to find time to explore options, where tropEd can keep its identity, etc.
- NC: organize meeting of coordinating committees to discuss how to go on. Then organise common seminar on education and training in GH.
- SA: already series of conference on professional doctorates. No reason we should not have a stream in GH?

10) Accreditation and re-accreditation of courses

No.	Institution	Course Title	Comments	Reviewers
1	Bergen	Global TB Epidemiology and Intervention	Re-accreditation	Cat 3
2	Berlin	Mental Health in a Cross-Cultural Perspective with a Special Focus on Traumatized Population	Re-accreditation	Cat 2
3	Copenhagen	Health policy, management and communication	New course	Cat 2
5	Heidelberg	Leadership and Change Management in International Health	Re-accreditation	Cat 3
6	Heidelberg	Climate Change and Health: impacts and adaptation policies	New course (French version of an accredited module)	Cat 3
7	Heidelberg	The schistosomiasis course: an interdisciplinary holistic approach to control	New course	Cat 3

Details are in annex 7 (course no 4 from Copenhagen was cat 2, discussed in EC)

11) Report from EM consortium (PM):

- All of the students are doing fine.
- Funding issues: discrepancy between fees expected by partners and fees collected.
- Director of University of Bordeaux Foundation met with us—offer to identify private funding that would be dedicated to EM scholarships. To get extra funds but not to interfere with selection.
- Consortium agreed that we would pursue this option. Will come up with proposal for extra funding strategy and plan.
- We now have on-line application and selection systems.
- UB2 has another EM Masters programme and an EM PhD.

End of session of second day

Saturday, 29 January 2011

Chair: GvH

12) QA Group Feedback: (BP):

BP stated that the role of the QA group is monitoring, guiding, reviewing, controlling and organizing task forces for specific issues. EC brings priorities for the QA group. In 2011 the agreed working groups will be:

- Coherence of planning group (BP, NC, SA)
- Content group (GvH, MB, AW-S, Odd)
- Membership questions (JJ, AH)
- PR/Network development (NP/LD)
- Preparing Barcelona conference / World Health summit (PZ/NC/SK)

It is agreed, that working groups will be smaller with committed members and that the EC keeps agenda setting, GA decision

13) Financial account approval:

JJ and NP reviewed the financial documents for the fiscal year 2010. No mistakes were found, so both internal auditors (Kassenprüfer) requested the official release of the EC (Vorstand) from its responsibility. The present members voted with

14 yes,

no against,

no abstentions.

The EC (Vorstand) is therefore officially released for the year 2010.

Presentation by GvH: Assessment of in-class assessment

14) tropEd website: The GA agrees that NIPH Mexico will be asked for a quote and then the EC takes the decision to offer either Copenhagen or Cuernavaca the revision and hosting of the tropEd website.

15) Student's issues: presentation by SK (annex 8)

- Funding, expectations not met (descriptions of the course?), mails mainly from Berlin,
- Suggestions: tropEd community letter (through home institutions)
- Funding problems and more distance learning opportunities (cheaper)
- Thematic tracks on website?
- E-mail tropEd rep. not from course coordinator on web
- Stud. Rep. Joining website working Group
- to do joint newsletter AH plus student issues after GA

17) Discussion on Umeå application

- MB: competitor in price
- Look for balance between network interests and private interests!
- To be clearly checked during site visit at Umea
- The will is something, to do it is another
- Students want to go to cheap places!
- Tutor must guide students, choosing only the cheapest courses is not acceptable
- Timing is also a factor, modules in July and August! Are requested

Overall the opinions were positive – it was agreed to invite Umeå to do the self-evaluation report.

Pending membership applications: Würzburg, Sidney, Brisbane. AH will contact them. The self-evaluation report of Universidad Mayor de San Simon (San Simon University), Faculty of Medicine, School of Graduates and Continuing Education, Postgraduate Unit for Tropical Medicine, just arrived during the meeting and will be reviewed by the EC.

18) Job descriptions of tropEd General Secretary and Assistant to the Secretary (AH): The final job description will be decided in the May meeting.

19) Any other business:

- World Health summit: now a bit less high level, track HRH internationalization in medical education. Invited for a 90 min. thing with 3 presenters (60 min, 30 min discussion) 23-26th of October 2011. Advice: to participate, yes (high price)
- Universities on Global Health in November in Canada
- Brussels: Global Health forums
- Please inform tropEd secretariat on conferences you attend, for coordination.

- For the Barcelona conference, looking for volunteers (students)
- Edinburgh (people confident with ECTS grading scales) refer to the latest regulations (AH for the curriculum meeting)

20) Dates and venues for next meetings

- 19-20 May, Berlin, starting Thursday morning with QA subgroups; meeting Thursday afternoon and whole Friday.
- 07-08 October: Barcelona
- 25 – 28 Jan 2012 Antwerp, Tampere?
- May 2012 in Edinburgh?
- September 2012 Antwerp?

13.00 h End of meeting