



ECTS MA Newsletter April 2010

Dear friends and ECTS MA members

The annual meeting in **Edinburgh** is approaching; May 25th and 26th. Hope to see you there!

Board meeting in Ljubljana

The board had a constructive meeting in Ljubljana on March 8th and 9th, hosted by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana. In conjunction with the meeting, we gave a seminar on 'Student Exchange and Medical Education', with an important number of students and staff present. We extend our warm thanks to Dean Prof. Dusan Suput and Departmental Erasmus Coordinator Dr. Tomaz Mars for their hospitality, generosity and excellent organisation.

The Edinburgh meeting

There have been some changes to **the program**, see the attached document. In a few days you will also find the updated program on <http://www.med-ects.org/meetings.htm>.

The meeting will be an active working one; back to basics. Focus will be on the future of the association and on the ECTS School.

In the **ECTS School** we will discuss the everyday challenges and how we solve them; first in small groups of 6-8 persons, then in a plenary session. At the Ljubljana board meeting we largely discussed this and designed two 'exchange student cases' for discussion in the ECTS School. The work in small groups will be based on these two cases, which will be sent to you prior to Edinburgh meeting and also posted on our website.

The **MEDINE2** meeting is in conjunction with our meeting, Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th until lunch. ECTS MA is included in the Work package on mobility in MEDINE2. The importance of this is that it gives the ECTS MA work more publicity, but does not remove or suppress our own profile as a more active network of mutual collaborating faculties.

Four board positions as well as the president position are up for election. Sylvain Meuris, Jørgen Hedemark Poulsen and President Borghild Roald's board periods expire, but all three of us stand for re-election. We hope for your support and trust for another period. Kiki Thermos and Sverre Bjerkeset will withdraw from the board, and we thank them for excellent work and commitment for ECTS for many years. We urge you to think of good candidates and forward them to secretary Sverre Bjerkeset (sverre.bjerkeset@medisin.uio.no) prior to the meeting or to any Board member at the meeting. We have great work ahead of us in an important issue.

New membership candidate: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium has applied for membership. They will present their candidacy at the General Assembly followed by a general vote.

The **annual fee** is new of this year. By April 15th, we had registered payment from 24 member institutions. Reminders have been sent individually to all other members. We know that some members have paid the fee, without this yet being registered in our bank account. At the General Assembly, we will have to discuss what to do with non-paying members.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- ?? Please report any changes in the **contact information** on the Coordinators and Institutions list <http://www.med-ects.org/institutions.htm> to birgit.heller@charite.de, with cc to sverre.bjerkeset@medisin.uio.no.
- ?? Please **make links to the ECTS MA Web site** from your own web sites.
- ?? **The Data base for Erasmus exchange within ECTS MA** is a very useful tool for the group. Update your institutions data, link <http://www.med-ects.org/docs.htm> and activate your faculty link and provide name and email of a contact person at your institution to Ms. Monique Léonard, erasmus.sante@ulb.ac.be or (Monique.leonard@ulb.ac.be). Username and password will then be emailed back, and the person receiving this is expected to complete the information asked for. Once completed, the on-line software will immediately generate data table with all your student exchanges.
- ?? **We urge you to complete and/or update this important information as soon as possible.**

We hope to see you in Edinburgh!

On behalf of the ECTS MA Executive Board,
Warm regards from
Professor Borghild Roald, President