



## ECTS MA Newsletter January 2010

Dear all of you,

We have entered a new year. It is time to look back on our achievements and doings in 2009.

### *Annual meeting 2009 in Coimbra*

We had a very successful annual meeting in Coimbra on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. We are very thankful for all efforts and work done by the local organizing committee - Prof. Armando Carvalho, Prof. Marílio Dourado, Prof. Sérgio Matos, Ms. Gabriela Fernandes and Ms. Nicole Dourado - and for all their hospitality during the meeting. It was a particular pleasure to have all the past ECTS ICMG presidents (4) and ECTS MA presidents (2) among us for the celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the two associations: João Ralves, Coimbra 1989-1995; Jaques Winand, Brussels 1996-1998; Jean-Pierre Wauters, Lausanne 1998-2001; Tim Jones, Bristol 2001-2004; Manuel Vijande, Oviedo 2004-2007; Borghild Roald, Oslo 2007-)

### *Annual meeting 2010 in Edinburgh*

The next annual meeting will take place in Edinburgh on Tuesday May 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday May 26<sup>th</sup>. We will start in the afternoon of May 25<sup>th</sup> with the ECTS School, continuing with the regular meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup>. In order to improve attendance and to reduce costs, the meeting will be organized in conjunction with the first MEDINE2 general annual meeting, which will take place on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

### *Board constitution and Board meetings*

There were no changes in the Board in 2009. Consequently, the Board still consists of the following: Borghild Roald (President, Oslo), Sverre Bjerkeset (Secretary, Oslo), Karel van Liempt (Treasurer, Antwerp), Kiki Thermos (Crete), Sylvain Meuris (Brussels), Jørgen Hedemark Poulsen (Copenhagen) and Human Salemi (Vienna). In 2009 we had three board meetings: Edinburgh (January), Coimbra (May) and Brussels (November). The board meeting in Edinburgh was combined with a working meeting with Allan Cummings and colleagues concerning the MEDINE2 application in general and the description of Work package 2 in particular. The meeting in Brussels was combined with a seminar on internationalisation hosted by Vrije Universiteit Brussel.

### *MEDINE2*

The MEDINE2 Erasmus Academic Network in Medical Education has been funded by the European Commission. Prof Allan Cumming is the Coordinator and Chair and Dr Karel van Liempt (ECTS MA's Treasurer) the Vice-Chair of the Executive Board of Medine2. The other members of the executive board represent the seven development work packages, the central coordinating office and key member organisations (see [www.medine2.com](http://www.medine2.com)). Each work package is represented by a primary contact and a Deputy. ECTS-MA is responsible of

Work package 2 (Mobility Toolkit) with Prof Kiki Thermos as the primary contact and Prof Borghild Roald as Deputy. The first meeting of the Executive Board of the MEDINE2 took place in Antwerp on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 2009 ([www.medine2.com](http://www.medine2.com)). It was decided that “the first MEDINE2 Annual General Meeting will be held in Edinburgh May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 2010. This "launch meeting "will allow the members of Medine2 to finalise the overall structure and shape of the Network and to carefully plan the work over the next three years.” In addition it was decided that in order to distribute the work of the Network evenly and to achieve a balanced budget, a planned approach to membership of the seven development Work package teams is needed. A short preference survey was prepared and sent to Medine2 members (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5L3D5QQ>). Once all the replies are received, a proposal will be prepared for the distribution of partners across the Work package Teams. At this time the membership of Work package 2 and the date of our first meeting will be announced.

### ***Letter to the Deans***

Just before Christmas, a letter was emailed to the deans of the medical faculties and medical schools which are members of ECTS MA, with a copy to the local ECTS MA coordinators. In the letter, the deans are informed about the introduction of an annual membership fee of €200 per institution and the rationale for this. As most of you remember, it was decided by a majority vote at the General Assembly in Coimbra to introduce such a fee. An invoice for the membership fee accompanied the letter.

### **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](mailto:birgit.heller@charite.de), with cc to [sverre.bjerkeset@medisin.uio.no](mailto:sverre.bjerkeset@medisin.uio.no).
- All members are encouraged to **make links to the ECTS MA Web site** <http://www.med-ects.org/index.htm> from their 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>. If you have not already activated your faculty link, please provide the name and email of a contact person at your institution to Ms. Monique Léonard, [erasmus.sante@ulb.ac.be](mailto:erasmus.sante@ulb.ac.be) or ([Monique.leonard@ulb.ac.be](mailto: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 and not later than end of January 2010.**
- **Please see to that the membership fee is paid within the Febr.15<sup>th</sup> deadline.**

### **Remember also our long term goals (by 2011):**

- 100% of Medical Faculties in the ECTS MA should properly have implemented the ECTS in their medical curricula
- 10% documented increased mobility for undergraduate medical students in clinical rotations, semester/courses and research
- ECTS implemented in 70% of medical curricula in Europe
- Increased use of modules, partly harmonized with relevant partner universities

- Arrange an international symposium on “Internationalization in the medical undergraduate education” in relation to the yearly ECTS MA meeting in 2011

*The Board sends its warm regards to all members.  
We wish you ALL THE BEST for 2010.  
We hope to see you in Edinburgh in May!  
The program there will include the ECTS MA school.*

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