

## European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy

# NEWSLETTER

### Coming up in May 2020, join us in Malta for the Annual EAFP Conference!

The Annual EAFP conference organised in collaboration with the Department of Pharmacy of the University of Malta is fast approaching. The theme of the conference is 'Synergism in Pharmacy Education: A new dimension' and will be held from 6 to 8 May at the Aula Magna of the Old University building in Valletta.

When stakeholders involved in pharmacy and pharmacy education come together to collaborate, the positive outcomes achieved are not only additional, but synergistic. The conference will feature three keynote presentations which will focus on 'Synergism in Education to Meet Needs of Innovation: Preparedness', 'Synergism of Expertise: Team Players', and 'Synergism in Learning: Innovative Teaching Methods'.

The Scientific Committee has this year received a record number of over 100 abstract submissions on pharmacy education and pharmacy research from institutions all over Europe and worldwide. To give increased exposure to the different experiences presented in these abstracts, the Scientific Programme includes in addition to selected oral presentations, opportunities for a Fast Poster Preview and a Poster Walk session. These sessions consist of short oral previews and structured discussions of poster presentations. We are looking forward to having this dynamic sharing of experiences of innovative teaching methods and new programmes in post-graduate pharmacy education.

The Pre-Conference Workshop addresses a hot topic in pharmacy research, pharmaceutical regulation and therapeutics, that of medicinal cannabis. The workshop entitled 'Dimensions of cannabis for medicinal use: Steering Education and Research' draws on expertise and experience related to the regulatory science landscape, prescribing framework, quality requirements, clinical applications and controversies in the field of cannabis for medicinal purposes. Keynote speaker for the pre-conference workshop is Professor Roger Pertwee from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland who is a leading researcher in endocannabinoids and the characterization of cannabinoid receptors. Conference registration includes access to the pre-conference workshop on Wednesday 6 May between 9.00 and 13.00.

The Welcome Reception, will be held in the main courtyard of the Auberge D'Italie in Valletta. The Conference Dinner includes a visit to the Mdina Metropolitan Cathedral of St. Paul and the Museum.

Register before March 31 to benefit from early bird registration fees. For more information about the conference, access the official

The Organising and Scientific Committees look forward to host you in Malta for an exciting and stimulating networking conference.



### Results of 2019 EAFP grant applications

It is a pleasure to announce the results of the adjudicating panel for the two grants offered by EAFP for supporting networking in pharmacy education and research.

#### Partnership for Research Development (PRD) Grant application

Veera BOBROVA from the Institute of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine, University of Tartu in Estonia is the successful recipient of the PRD 2019 grant with the project entitled *Development and implementation of medication use review services at community pharmacy in Eastern European countries*. The project partners are Faculty of Pharmacy, Riga Stradins University, Latvia and the Faculty of Pharmacy, Varna Medical University, Bulgaria.

#### Partnership for Faculty Education Development (PED) Grant application

Martina SUTOROVA from the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Social Pharmacy in the University Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Kosice, Slovakia is the successful awardee for the PED 2019 grant with the project *Providing cross-border healthcare*. The project partners are Department of Pharmacognosy and Botany, University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Kosice, Slovakia and the Department of Applied Pharmacy, University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Slovakia.

## Teaming up to strengthen education and training initiatives to meet human resources needs in health

EAFP collaborated with the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) for a brainstorming session focused on education and training needs during the FIP Regional Conference for the European Region which was held in October 2019 in Ankara, Turkey.

EAFP is a member organisation within FIP and this partnership allows for EAFP to transmit the international vision into the European pharmacy education advancements. In Ankara, EAFP supported the session dedicated to 'Human resources for health: Education and training to meet envisioned pharmaceutical competencies'.

The session focused on exploring how educators and stakeholders can ensure delivery of relevant education that contributes to knowledge, skills and competencies required for the fast-changing healthcare needs. Kristien De Paepe, an Executive Committee member of the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy, participated in the panel. At first, Prof. Yusuf Öztürk, Dean of the Anadolu University Faculty of Pharmacy, presented a lecture 'Pharmacy education in Turkey', followed by Prof. Gul Ozhan, vice dean of the Istanbul University Faculty of Pharmacy, who discussed the 'Provision of harmony in pharmacy and training in Turkey'. In these lectures, the provision of primary health care in the community pharmacy and collaborative pharmacy practice among health care providers were highlighted. The question 'Needs-based education: are we equipping the current and future workforce for the next leap of pharmacy?' was tackled by Prof. Ian Bates, Director of FIP Workforce Development Hub. The session was concluded by Assistant Prof. Arijana Mestrovic, Vice President of FIP's Academic Pharmacy Section. Her inspiring lecture focussed on 'Bringing primary health care providers closer to pharmacy education'.

During the session, measures and examples of how to ensure effective pharmacy education and training that support pharmacy graduates to be able to effectively contribute to primary health care were discussed. The leadership vision from EAFP based on the EAFP 2018 Position Paper was presented. The Position Paper recognizes the contribution of pharmacists as an anchoring profession collaborating with other professionals in the various settings and providing a patient-oriented focus.

The Paper was developed to encourage pharmacy educators to reflect on characteristics expected from a pharmacy graduate, to understand perspectives and expectations of different stakeholders from pharmacy graduates and to support evolvement of pharmacy curricula to meet current and future needs of pharmaceutical professional services and processes. The Paper was based on a stakeholder roundtable discussion session and the FIP Nanjing Global Statements on Pharmacy Education.

In May 2019, during the World Health Assembly, FIP signed a memorandum of understanding with WHO and committed to support transformative high-quality pharmacy education as contribution to pharmaceutical workforce that ensures universal health coverage, and access to quality primary care services. This demonstrates the importance education and training has on positioning pharmacists as lead contributors to the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases particularly at primary care interface.

Within this international scenario established by FIP, the teaming of EAFP with FIP at this Regional European conference was an opportunity to extrapolate synergistically the four pillars identified by the EAFP Position Paper namely: pharmacy education that focuses on maintaining a science practice balance, embrace innovative teaching methods based on experiential-based robust academic experiences, value interprofessional education and collaborative practice learning, and ensure preparedness of graduates for lifelong learning.

This teaming up between EAFP and FIP for the FIP Regional European Conference in Ankara is a heads up for further collaboration between the Associations to join forces and support the evolvement of pharmacy education that contributes to pharmaceutical workforce development that meets the requirements to achieve primary health care goals.

During the upcoming 2020 EAFP Annual Conference which will be held in Malta 6-8th May, with the theme Synergism in Pharmacy Education: A New Dimension; the team-up started off in Ankara will be followed up through FIP's participation in the conference and sharing of the implementation of Ankara commitment to action on primary health care.



## Announcements

### Master in Drug and Health Products Development

The new International Master "Development of Drugs and Health Products (D2HP)" organised by the Faculty of Pharmacy of University of Paris-Saclay is now available for registration for September 2020 intake. This Master is open to international students wishing to deepen their knowledge in research and development of innovative therapies in the fields of expertise of our university's researchers. All courses are in English.

Three main topics are addressed:

- 1- Development of biotechnology and innovative therapies for major diseases
- 2- Design and production strategies for drug delivery systems applied to challenging small active pharmaceutical compounds and biomacromolecules
- 3- Development of pharmaco-toxicological and analytical methods for evaluation of new therapeutic approaches and prediction of environmental issues

Further information is available from christian.cave@universite-paris-saclay.fr

### A special issue on Curriculum Development: Call for papers

Worldwide changes in the roles of pharmacists has triggered the idea to dedicate a special issue of the journal Pharmacy to several aspects of 'Pharmacy curriculum development'. The following (non-exhaustive) list of subjects may be of interest for this issue: educational frameworks, progressive development of student competences, motivation, feedback and assessment, and suitable teaching/learning approaches for professional development. In addition, curriculum integration, optimization, management and teacher/preceptor professionalization are planned to be covered. The chapters will also be made available in book format, as free digital or as paperback edition (through Amazon.com). Further details are given at the website of the journal: [www.mdpi.com/journal/pharmacy/special\\_issues/Pharmacy\\_Curriculum\\_Development](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/pharmacy/special_issues/Pharmacy_Curriculum_Development)

Authors are invited to describe their experiences with aspects of curriculum development in an inspirational and practical way, aimed at supporting colleagues worldwide with the design of completely new curricula or with the re-engineering of existing curricula. The deadline for submitting manuscripts is May 31, 2020. If you are interested in contributing to this volume, contact the guest editor, Andries Koster, with your suggestions and/or outline of the proposed paper: [A.S.Koster@uu.nl](mailto:A.S.Koster@uu.nl)

## Pharmacy education: Literature alert

At the boundary between studying pharmacy and entry into practice, students and trainees have to learn to take responsibility for their own actions in order to become 'professionals', which can be entrusted to carry out the typical tasks of a pharmacists. Training, supervision and/or guidance by workplace-based pharmacist ('preceptors') is essential for helping students to make this difficult transition. Two recent publications from different parts of the world (Canada, Australia) may help to define the role of preceptors and start thinking about the way these preceptors need to be trained for their important task.

Katrina Mulherin, Sheila Walter, Craig D. Cox: National preceptor development program (PDP): Influential evidence and theory. The first of a 3-part series. *Curr.Pharm.Teach.Learn.* 10, 255-266 (2018).

Cherie Lucas, Kylie Williams, Jacqueline Tudball and Ramesh L. Walpole: Community, hospital and industry preceptor perceptions of their role in experiential placements – the need for standardization of preceptor responsibilities and evaluations on students. *Curr.Pharm.Teach.Learn.* 10, 1447-1455 (2018).

## Conferences

### EUFEPS Annual Meeting 2020 – Bridging the gap between the patient and the product design

Welcome to the 2020 Annual Meeting to be held in Gothenburg, June 15-17 in collaboration with Chalmers University of Technology, AstraZeneca Mölndal, Swedish Drug Delivery Forum and Swedish Pharmaceutical Society. The meeting will be focused on Bridging the gap between the patient and the product design and the program includes parallel tracks organized by a broad group of world-leading researchers from EUFEPS Networks as well as from other leading European science networks and research consortiums.

The aim of the Annual meeting is to bring together people from all over the world who are involved in pharmaceutical sciences in order to exchange the latest results, experiences, and information and to build communication and collaboration at regional and global scales in a friendly spirit. Inspiring lectures will give you insights into the future drug development and health care applications.



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EAFP  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF  
FACULTIES OF PHARMACY



L-Università ta' Malta  
Faculty of  
Medicine & Surgery

Department  
of Pharmacy

## PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

### DIMENSIONS OF CANNABIS FOR MEDICINAL AND RESEARCH PURPOSES

Wednesday 6 May 2020, University of Malta, Valetta Campus