

ASPHER Executive Board Meeting
19 July 2022, 15:00-17:00 CEST (Zoom)
Draft Minutes

Present:

Executive Board:

John Middleton (President), Mary Codd, Carla Lopes, Karolina Lyubomirova, Oliver Razum, Ines Siepmann, Carlo Signorelli (President-elect)

Secretariat: Lore Leighton, Robert Otok

Apologies: Nadav Davidovitch, Polychronis Kostoulas, Mirjana Kujundžić Tiljak

1. Welcome, apologies and declarations of interest

JM welcomed the Executive Board, and ASPHER Secretariat

RO recorded apologies

No declarations of interest were made

2. Summary of last meeting and any immediate updates

2.1. Minutes of 31 May meeting approved with amendment to remove exact dates of Dublin Retreat in 2023.

2.2. New ASPHER Website – not on today's meeting agenda, but report on progress to follow in September

2.3. ASPHER 2022 ASPHER General Assembly Summary (see <https://www.aspher.org/download/1178/aga2022-minutes-draft.pdf>)

The EB unanimously approved the GA meeting summary.

2.4. For information: Karl Conyard – new ASPHER Fellow

(See CV https://www.aspher.org/download/1177/karl_conyard_cv_may_22.pdf)

KC has an established working relationship with Mary Codd

Contributed to UCCAIDE project

Starting outline for ASPHER Core Competencies/Curriculum update

2.5. Secretariat Staff contracts

New contracts are to be processed this month for Lore Leighton and Robert

Otok as previously agreed with EB. Also for Karl Conyard as new Fellow.

Pension scheme will be added on and is not subject to contract details.

Action: Plan for Secretariat expansion to be submitted to EB prior to the board meeting in Sofia. To be discussed with Carla Lopes in her capacity as Treasurer.

2.6. Agenda highlights

2.6.1. YPP/ASSETS meeting in Brussels – Ines Siepmann reported:

Meeting was successful with 6-10 participants onsite each day. Discussion was held over strategic building and sustainability of the YPP programme.

IS thanked RO for his work on the event

Over 60 applicants were received for the 2022 YPP intake and are currently being reviewed.

IS informed that she had accepted an employment offer with the CDC in the United States, but she would continue with her post on the ASPHER EB.

- 2.6.2. Professionalisation of the Public Health Workforce Task Force (PPHW-TF) launch – Robert Otok reported on the launch of the PPHW-TF and informed that there would be further meetings with Kasia Czabanowska next week.

2.7. Partner news

- 2.7.1. BeWell project: <https://twitter.com/BeWellProjectEU>

RO reported that the project kicked off last week with major ERASMUS+/EU funded agenda on skills for health

EHMA leads with EuroHealthNet providing public health perspective

Action: ASPHER will track project developments to ensure synergy with the PHW professionalisation agenda, and the ERASMUS effort led by Polychronis.

Other items discussed to consider for PK ERASMUS proposal:

- Consider delaying application to next year for better timing to synergize with ASPHER core competencies/curriculum work and outcomes of first year of BeWell (or still try to submit this year in order to have feedback from reviewers)
- Coordinate with UCCAIDE implementation in practice
- Consider Jim Campbell and GNAPH work
- Application must go beyond ASPHER membership and include employment side alliances
- BeWell mapping from project year 1 could provide input to a project proposal next year

Action: Schedule urgent meeting with PK (including MC) to keep options open. The EB indicated that they were invested in taking the ERASMUS proposal forward.

- 2.7.2. Global Alliance on War, Conflict and Health (GAWCH):

<https://www.warconflicthealth.org/>

Oliver Razum reported that the GAWCH had launched on 1 July with approximately 100 members, led by ASPHER TFW member Samer Jabbour.

- 2.8. ASPHER Newsletter: Lore Leighton reported on progress for the ASPHER

Summer (July/August) newsletter

Update: now available here <https://www.aspher.org/download/1182/aspher-newsletter-july-august-2022.pdf>

3. New Member Application

RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Dublin, IRELAND

(see https://www.aspher.org/download/1176/rcsi_aspher-ma2022.pdf)

The EB questioned whether RCSI was relevant for membership in ASPHER given that it was focused on medicine rather than public health.

RO indicated that the criteria has been relaxed in the past, but that there should be some training element.

MC added what she knows about RCSI - as a private college aligned with the North of Ireland. She welcomed their interest as an indication that ASPHER is becoming better known as an international network.

LL informed that based on email communications with the RCSI contact, they had indicated that they were planning to launch a School of Population Health in Autumn 2022.

The EB unanimously approved provisional ASPHER Membership for RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences

4. EPH Conference - Berlin 2022: ASPHER/EHMA joint plenary outline

(see: <https://www.aspher.org/download/1179/eph-plenary-aspher-ehma.pdf>)

Robert Otok informed that he had met yesterday with EHMA to discuss the proposed joint ASPHER/EHMA Plenary 5 scenario.

Two keynotes will be made from WHO-Europe on the Professionalisation Roadmap and from EHMA on BeWell.

Speakers in the panel will include representatives from UK PHR to speak to the global agenda and WHO roadmap, EHMA BeWell project coordinator, and EHESP on One Health approach.

Plenary 5 will be held on the final conference day (Saturday morning).

5. WCPH - Rome 2023 (<https://wcpb.org/>)

Carlo Signorelli informed about progress for the WCPH-Rome which will take place from 2-6 May 2023. The event title will be: World in Turmoil

ASPHER has been given several session spaces, but it is still early to decide how to use them – it will be discussed further after the Deans' & Directors' Retreat.

Mary Codd asked about World Leadership Dialogs costs, which require payment to participate. CS indicated that these were generally sponsorship arrangements or sometimes charitable foundations to promote projects and activities. They would be out of ASPHER's budget.

Actions: Keep WCPH on the agenda for promotion and discussion at Sofia and Berlin EPH. CS to send official promotional materials to use on ASPHER and member websites

6. Deans' & Directors' Retreat - Sofia 2022: programme outline

(<https://www.aspher.org/download/1175/2022-dd-retreat-sofia.pdf>)

Karolina Lyubomirova, and Robert Otok presented the programme, which was prepared in consultation with RO, KL, JM and CS:

- The EB will meet first on 13 September ahead of the Retreat
- The Retreat will open in the morning of 14 September with invited guests
- A short session will be added for Bulgaria specific challenges
- Awards will be presented at the dinner
- The Retreat meetings will be held at the hotel

Special Tours:

A special visit to the medical university could be arranged on Saturday before dinner

A day trip to Plovdiv will be arranged for the Sunday social programme, but a ½ day tour in Sofia may also be organized for those who will be leaving earlier.

Costs:

Accommodations 65 EUR for single/85 EUR for double per night

Social programme 200 EUR

Event rooms covered locally

Registration:

ASPHER will set up and track the registrations (registration now available here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-cNU2_KL9ucJVY8CLsLsI_OT0QXQ6RhTdo9UcFt1rz4PclQ/viewform)

Local organisers will handle collection of payments

MC asked about planning for session chairs – JM responded that this will be taken up outside of the meeting, but EB members should be prepared to be on hand to chair. IS asked if this was still planned as a hybrid event – RO responded that it would be promoted first as an in person event to encourage attendance, but that remote access would remain an option.

Actions: Set up registration and promote to ASPHER Membership ASAP, before end of July in newsletter, on website and with membership mailings.

Send out call for abstracts: <https://www.aspher.org/news,86.html>

7. AOB, next meeting & closing

7.1. WHO/EURO Regional Committee meeting in Tel Aviv – RO reported that ASPHER has been invited to attend the meeting with new acceptance of status as a Non State Actor for WHO/EURO. It would present an opportunity to make an official communication on the professionalisation agenda.

Action: To be discussed outside the meeting. Nadav Davidovitch may be delegated to represent as an Executive Board member if John Middleton does not attend.

7.2. ASPHER Diversity and Intersectionality member survey – Oliver Razum reported that the response rate has been low and urged EB members to fill it in and urge colleagues to respond.

Actions: A reminder of the survey will be in the newsletter and RO will follow up with specific members.

7.3. Next meeting: Wednesday 7 September, 15:30-17:30 CEST, Zoom

7.4. JM closed the meeting