



THE PULSE

Bringing YOU news from UAEM Europe

PRISCILLA SIGNS UNRESTRICTED ED-CONTRACT

UAEM Board

The board is happy to announce some very good news: During the course of the board meeting in Berlin (7.3.-10.3.2019), our Executive Director (ED) Priscilla signed an unrestricted working-contract with UAEM Europe as our ED! Working with such dedicated and highly-skilled staff is of vital essence for our organisation to thrive and grow sustainably. We thank Priscilla for her excellent work so far and are looking forward to many more years to come of working together in the fight for universal access to essential medicines.



FRENCH UAEMERS LETTER TO PARLAMENTARIANS

UAEM France

UAEM France along with its dialogue partner met with a French Parliamentarian. This parliamentarian defended UAEM France's view vis a vis research transparency in the debate for 2019 law for Funding of Social Security. However, in October 2018, the minister responsible did not agree to our request, saying that such view is unrealistic and render France less attractive for investment.

This letter was aimed to provide our rebuttals to the minister's claim and contribute UAEM's own expertise and show him that UAEM's view is shared by many across borders.

One prime example was the Netherlands which took measures in support of research transparency, so does Italy. In the letter was also an invitation for the parliamentarian to organise a debate and invite the public as well as experts to underline the importance of transparency in research; the letter also contained a request that he scrutinizes France's position to Italy's initiative regarding the WHO.

While the letter has yet to receive any reply, UAEM France is hopeful that the seed contained in the letter will blossom into something remarkable in the future.

NORWAY'S NEW WAY

UAEM Norway

Last February, UAEM Norway held its annual national in-person meeting at the main university campus in Oslo. Representatives from the two Norwegian chapters, Oslo and Bergen, were present.

The meeting kicked-off with an introduction to the topic Access to Medicines. The lecture was held by Øyunn Holen from Doctors Without Borders and was open to the general public. This was a comprehensive introduction to the topic for newcomers to UAEM, but even the more experienced UAEMers learnt a thing or two. Øyunn Holen's insight yielded fruitful discussions and ideas which inspired the rest of the weekend.

Saturday and Sunday were dedicated to workshops on the current (and future) situation and work with socially responsible licensing (SRL) in Norway, new comers were introduced to the theme and brought up to speed to input into the discussions.

WHA/WHO advocacy was also on the menu.

We also elected a new person to deal with our growing affairs: Maria from Bergen!

A rather fresh, and super devoted UAEMer, that you are likely to suddenly meet. The "How to pitch UAEM" workshop held by Eirin from Oslo, inspired by last year's training camp, was a great success.



More importantly, they all had fun! In-person meetings are great for team building and getting more comfortable with UAEM terms. The weekend was intense, but it was a great inspirational boost for all of participating Norwegians.

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HAMBURG HYPE PIECE

UAEM Hamburg

“A few years ago the Hamburg Senate proposed to apply for hosting the Olympic Games. After long debates the people of Hamburg decided that one major event every few years would be enough for the hanseatic city: They decided against the Olympic Games and for the UAEM European Conference 2019.

Jokes aside, there are definitely lots of reasons to look forward to the conference! First of all the conference topic “Public Research for Public Needs” will be mainly university focused, so that everyone will get lots of ideas for their future UAEM projects. And who would fit better as a keynote speaker for this topic than someone who had started working on access to medicines with UAEM as a student, now works as a professional on access to medicines, and truly believes in the power of students?

We are happy to announce that Kathi Hawlik will be one of the conference speakers among many other inspiring people who kindly followed our invitation. Moreover, we think it is obvious to also look forward to our lovely city of Hamburg as conference location. For those who arrive early on Friday we will provide a little tour around all the beautiful places in the area. If you are still not convinced that this weekend will be amazing, this might convince you: We are organizing a fantastic party on Saturday evening! See you in one month!

Be excited. Register. Come to Hamburg.”



REGISTRATION OPEN



**UAEM
EUROPE
CONFERENCE
2019**

Public Research for Public Needs : The Role of Universities

**HAMBURG, GERMANY
26-28 APRIL 2019**

AARHUS PRE-ELECTION BRIEFING

UAEM Aarhus

Thursday, 14th of March, Aarhus University Campus. Members of UAEM Aarhus, sporting their best 'business casual' outfits met with representatives from three parties from the opposition. Ahead of the Danish parliamentary election, healthcare promises to be one of the top 3 subjects of the election. Thus, the time was ripe to invite candidates to a presentation on the R&D system with focus on the different buttons the state can push in order to tackle the soaring prices on medicines. Armed with delicious snacks (including, but not limited to, fruit), instant coffee and stylish slides, an explosive evening was expected.

Thematically, the emphasis was on the Danish context with Kristoffer Kjærgaard presenting key numbers from the regions of Denmark, highlighting market failure and increasing expenses on hospital medication.

This was followed by an introduction to:

- (1) Health Technology Assessment;
- (2) BeNeLuxA;
- (3) TRIPS-flexibilities and (4) the de-linkage model.

After the presentation, the candidates engaged in a discussion with UAEM members, and an outline of a collaboration on a larger debate on the R&D system took its form. As the participating politicians seemed keen on making prices on medicines a theme in their campaign, the Aarhus chapter will be looking into hosting a large panel debate ahead of the election later in 2019.

For information regarding the event please contact: uaem.denmark@gmail.com



GLOBAL HEALTH RANKING'S LATEST MEETING

UAEM Leipzig

From 8th to 10th of February the “Global Health Ranking 2.0” meeting took place in Leipzig. As you know, the Global Health University Ranking, a project by UAEM Europe and the BVMD (the Federal Representation of Medical Students in Germany), is the first systematic survey which examines how the 36 medical faculties at state-funded universities in Germany are involved in research and education on global health issues as well as poverty-associated and neglected diseases and how they ensure that people worldwide have access to the results of publicly funded research.

The aim of the project is to make the area of Global Health, which has been underrepresented in Germany to date, more visible and at the same time to create an incentive for faculties to become more involved in this area.

More about the findings as well as information about the UK, USA and Canada counterparts of the project can be found here.

In the February meeting, there were interesting discussions about the global health approach used in the German global health score card, where Leipzig UAEMers presented their upcoming research project. They analyzed how to implement the decisions that are made and how to adapt these to their further steps. The Leipzig UAEMers are currently working on gaining more internal attention and on recruiting more help from UAEM members in Germany. Possible partners for the launch of the project are bcmd, various STURAs, and the GHA. All in all, the personal meeting enhanced content-related clarification as well as personal commitment of the current team members.

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