

European Federation of the Associations of Dietitians

Honorary President

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Dear Delegates

As the month of March seems to be disappearing very fast I thought I would write and bring you up-to-date with some of the activities we have been involved in at EFAD HQ!

You will be delighted to know that the first meeting of the Professional Practice Committee (PPC) has taken place. Work already begun on the significant work looking at our first priority; harmonising dietetic practice across Europe. The information about the committee and its work can be found on the EFAD website. The PPC met just before the EC in February and at the EC we finalised the Strategic Plan 2011-16 for discussion by Associations and at the GM. The EC also worked hard on the Operating Grant bid and this will be sent out to you shortly for your wise thoughts and guidance.

The EC wanted me to particularly highlight to you that over the next few weeks and months a number of questionnaires will be arriving for completion and further distribution. These are really important for the EC and your EFAD Committees. They need together baseline data to help us move forward our agenda for development. I cannot stress how important it is that we have the information and feedback to help us, not only to report back to you at the GM, but also to meet our ambitions for dietitians and the profession in Europe.

We have also been involved in two significant pieces of correspondence. We were invited to a meeting in Israel to discuss a new initiative on Hospital Nutrition and Food. Following that meeting WHO Europe has initiated a working group to consider a new framework for Europe and we have written to ask for a place at that 'table'. The response is very positive and we have been invited to go and discuss this framework and other initiative (such as the IDNT) with WHO Europe in Copenhagen. We also sent off a response to a consultation on EC Directive 36 which was proposing a change to the credentials required by health professionals working across borders. As yet we do not know the outcome but we joined with our partners such as EPHA to express our grave concern about any changes that do not ensure the safety of our patients and service users. All of these responses can once again be seen on our website.

You will have noticed changes to our website and progress is being made to update and reconfigure the website to make it fresh and fit for purpose. Our hunt for a new logo has also started and you will have received a request to distribute information about the competition. The closing date is the 25th of March. So if you haven't already submitted your design then please remember to do so or encourage others....the prize is 350 Euros.

Shortly the information for the GM will be distributed and I am looking forward already to September to my first GM with you all. In the meanwhile stay healthy and happy even if we are all working more than we should.

Sincerely

European Federation of the Associations of Dietitians

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