



Network for Education
in International Health

Minutes of tropEd General Assembly Meeting

14th to 16th June 2018

Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh

Participants:

Alberto Matteelli (AM), Brescia;
Alison Gilry (AG), London IGH;
Andrea Kinigadner (AK), Munich;
Ari Probandari (AP), Indonesia;
Bernadette Peterhans (BP), Basel;
Bruno Broucker (BB), Antwerp;
Carola Eyber (CE), Edinburgh;
Doris Schopper (DS), Geneva;
Elsa Herdiana Murhandarwati, (EHM), Indonesia;
Govert van Heusden (GvH), Antwerp;
Guenter Froeschl (GF), Munich;
Henry Lynn (HL), Shanghai;
Katarina Banchoff (KB), Student rep.;
Kata Stete, (KS), Student rep.;
Kinkel, Hans-Friedemann (KHF), Berlin;
Lars Henning (LH), Australia;
Lisanne, Gerstel (LG), Amsterdam;
Maaïke, Flinkenflögel (MF), Amsterdam;
Maria Rosario Martins (MrM), Lisbon;
Mats Malqvist (MM), Uppsala;
Nandita Rothermund-Bucher (NRB) Heidelberg;
Ning Beyer (NB), Basel;
Nuria Casamitjana (NC), Barcelona;
Pauline Grys (PG), Heidelberg;
Pol De Vos (PdV), Edinburgh;
Prisca Zwanikken (PZ), Amsterdam;
Ralf Weigel (RW), Witten
Stina Stiernström (SS), Uppsala;

12 Full member, 3 collaborating institutes 2 student representatives

1. Ms. Petra Wend, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Queen Margaret University warmly welcomed the GA to Edinburgh. Dr. Pol De Vos - Deputy Director of IGHD, gave a short presentation about the history and the current educational and research programmes of the Institute.
2. **Agenda of Edinburgh GA** meeting is accepted. **Minutes of the Hanoi GA** are approved without any changes.
3. **Information from Secretariat**
 - **Courses accredited since last GA:**
 - Berlin: Designing, Managing and Evaluating Projects for Improving Health: Issues for Donors and Implementers
 - Berlin: Mental Health in a Cross-Cultural Perspective with a Special Focus on Traumatized Populations
 - Hanoi: Principles and Practices of Injury Prevention
 - Hanoi: Bridging the Gap between Research and Health Policy making
 - Heidelberg: Quality Management in International Health
 - Lisbon: Molecular Parasitology: The biology, diagnosis, epidemiology, taxonomy, vaccines and drug resistance of parasites of medical importance and their vectors
 - Munich: Public Health System in Nepal - Challenges and Opportunities,(track changes version and a clean version)
 - **New tropEd membership applicant:**
 - James Cook University, AUSTRALIA has sent the letter of intent to tropEd secretariat and expressed their willingness to join the network. We have invited them to Edinburgh GA
 - The GA has also agreed in Hanoi to invite the Private Universität Witten/Herdecke, Germany to give a presentation in Edinburgh.
 - École Nationale de Santé Publique, Rabat, Morocco, site visit was done on 11th to 12th October 2017 by Carola and Maria. Since they cannot come to Edinburgh GA, we will invite them to the Berlin GA in October 2018. Since it is already one year after the site visit, ENSP should give us an update report about their programme and especially the accreditation process of their programme in Morocco.
 - The English version of the self-evaluation report from University of Sciences, Techniques and Technology of Bamako has been handed in. The EC members decided to go for a site visit. Govert volunteered to take this task.
 - The Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine in Hamburg has applied for tropEd membership. After vote, all GA members decided to invite them to Berlin for the first presentation.

➤ **Information from Member:**

- London SHTM cannot join the Edinburgh meeting but they are working on the solution to solve the accreditation problem and hope to bring all the courses back soon.

➤ **Ning will leave her position in the tropEd secretariat by the end of July.**

Swiss TPH hosting the tropEd secretariat will compensate this loss with another assistant for the rest of the year.

- Axel was elected again as Executive Secretary in Hanoi. But we also try to have a successor already in 2019. Since the legal status of the network is an association in Germany, A German institution would be the easiest way for the transition. In Berlin GA, an half hour session is suggested to make it clear what are the requirements or consequences of the changes. All institutions should think about the possibility to host the tropEd secretariat. If yes, please inform the Secretariat by the end of August. A final decision will be made then in the Berlin GA.

➤ **Annual report 2017**

Guenter quickly went through the annual report 2017. **For details please see Annex 1**

4. Membership issue: James Cook University (JCU), AUSTRALIA

Dr. Lars Henning , Academic Head of Public Health Tropical Medicine, College of Public Health, Medical and Veterinary Sciences, James Cook University give an introduction to the GA about the university. JCU has three campuses in Australia and Singapore. The representative of our previous member in Australia, Prof. Maxine Whittaker is now the Dean of the College of Public Health, Medical and Veterinary Sciences and Deputy Director of the Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine (AITHM) at JCU. There are very well established Master programme on Public health, Master of public health and tropical medicine and Master of public health MBA. These are two years programme with 36 credits. (one credits equals to 43 contact hours.) Many eLearning components are very well developed in JCU. At this moment JCU are under Reshape the MPH and MPHTM content. With the collaboration with tropEd, JCU can increase the subject offerings (for TropED and JCU), Joint supervision of students, get an external benchmarking and become a home institution later. **For details please see Annex 2**

Questions and answers:

Q: How is the university funded?

A: Not quite clear but as far as I know most of the funding comes from the tuition fee.

Q: How can the student manage to pay the tuition fee?

A: There are some kinds of fund from the government, or some reduce of tuition fee is possible. There are also some fellowships for the students who come from the low and middle income countries.

Q: Whether you allow your student to take courses from other universities?

A: Yes

Q: There are 800 students in 2018. Is 25 staffs enough for the 800 students?

A: So far we have managed very well.

Q: What is the concept of tropical medicine in Australia?

A: I think it is the same with the Europe.

Q: Whether student can write dissertation?

A: Yes, they can choose to write dissertation but not compulsory.

Q: There are 100 of graduate per year, Are the graduates can find job easily?

Q: Most of them have a job already when they come to the study.

Q: How difficult /easy to offer a different fee for tropEd students?

A: Some time, up to five students the dean can give a wave of the fee.

Q: Is that possible to give a simple application process?

A: James Cook sends some students to Laos to take the courses from Basel and it works well.

Q: whether the courses are modulised or it goes for the whole semester?

A: we have the courses, for example two weeks block course. So outside students can easily join.

After vote, all members agree to invite JCU to continue with the application process and invite them to fill in the self-evaluation form.

5. Student issue

The student representative group are managing a face book group and there are 229 members now where the regularly exchange about courses, practical issues, infos about get-togethers, etc. 28 people have joined the mailing list of tropEd group mail. The representative group organized a tropEd Alumni meeting at ECTMIH 2017 in Antwerp. In Spring 2018 they have made a student's survey through a spring flyer sent to students at all institutions in May 2018. 10 questions were asked on different aspects of the troped studies in this survey. **For detailed result please see Annex 3**

After discussion with the group, we plan to take the following three actions to improve the tropEd website and the communication with the students in the network:

- Ask the home institution to write more information on the member page to show the special core area of the institute in order to help the student to choose a home institution. Two student representatives will help us to list some questions to the home institutions so they can draft the further information.
- Offer more links on the job page
- Student rep. will prepare two newsletters each year Sep/Mar. and circulate to tropEd students.

6. Erasmus + End of project Seminar (For details of all presentations please see Annex 4)

Carola gave GA the overview of the project. Three members, Amsterdam, Bergen, Edinburgh, run under the Erasmus + framework, the project 'Development of innovative e-learning and teaching through strategic partnerships in Global Health

Education' for three years and the program are coming now to the end. The plan was to deliver the core modules in-house at 3 institutions. At the same time, web developer and module coordinators at each institution develop online modules. Each institution delivers 1-2 modules online and all students take all 3-4 modules together as a cohort. 8 students per institution subsidised for travel and living costs. Students return 'home' after semester 1 and complete rest of MSc online (electives & dissertation)

During the three years time, development and delivery of pathway 1 and pathway 2 took place. The focus of pathway 3 changed and so did some of the modules. Module content, delivery and skill sets varied greatly, Students appreciation of (and sometimes frustration!) with this varied greatly too...Students worked, travelled, looked after children, conducted consultancies, studied full-time, Module coordinators expressed appreciation and irritation, conducted late night work and engaged in technological learning etc.

The projects managed to foster strategic partnerships in Global Health education, Jointly promote high quality online Learning & Teaching in Global Health, Individually further our own institutional development of online modules, for students: foster virtual mobility, and make Global Health more accessible to students through being flexible & lower cost.

Bente shared from teaching perspectives: sustainability (joys) and challenges of modules . she gave some first hand experiences on how to choose courses and how to change the mode of delivery of the course.

Lisanne gave the institutional perspectives on virtual student mobility in international/ global health education. In order to analyse the benefits and challenges of mobile online/blended learning on training institutes, they have done a semistructured interviews with module coordinators, representatives of each institute (managers), and educational developers. The result shows student perspective virtual mobility; the advantages to institutes: being in a network; Institutional developments; collaborations with partners/clients; teacher perspective virtual mobility, teacher perspective e-learning; challenges of virtual mobility for institutes and the starting conditions for virtual mobility/e-learning. In conclusion, virtual mobility can stimulate institutional development and positioning with regards to e-learning; offers potential to synergies and increasing interactions with clients/partners; has influence on our teaching quality both face to face and online; requires willingness, energy/resources to make the most of it! Some alignment is necessary but diversity is what makes it interesting!!

Three students gave their experiences on the Erasmus+ project as well.

Laurie Blair talked from the technical/web development perspective, what are the lessons learned. She developed a Handbook to facilitating online learning. You can take a first Look at: <https://www.oercommons.org/authoring/25273/preview>

At the end Maria introduced the new Erasmus + proposal which has been submitted by six members, Lisbon, Amsterdam, Bergen, Antwerp, Barcelona, Edinburgh early this year. The topic of the project is 'Bridging the digital gap in global health education through empowerment of students and teachers'. The objectives were defined by a combination of needs defined by two large groups: those of partner institutions to participate in the

promotion of innovative digital tools and methodologies for teaching and learning and those of student groups who want to acquire new digital competences necessary in the field of global health. The overall goal for of the project is the development of digitally-integrated renewed contents and pedagogies in global health. The detailed methods includes:

- Transforming existing modules in order to include digital competencies as learning objective, content as well as assessment (O2,O3)
- Staff development (several short term training courses, C1, C4, C5)
- Delivery of the 12 modules (piloted by each partner institution) through the tropEd network to Master in International/Global Health (MIH/MGH) students (O2,O3).
- Delivery of the module on Transferrable digital competencies for Global Health professionals' (C5)

There will be the following seven intellectual outputs and three seminars:

- Creation of new module called 'Transferrable digital competencies for Global Health professionals'
- Transformed existing modules that include digital competencies as learning objective, content as well as assessment – Set 1
- Transformed existing modules that include digital competencies as learning objective, content as well as assessment – Set 2
- Journal articles 1 - focused on global health professionals need & use of digital competencies
- Journal article 2 - focused on global health educators' need and perspectives on digital competencies
- Guidelines on digital competencies for global health education
- Policy brief on alignment for digital innovation in teaching based on Bologna principles

We are looking forward to hear the good news from the consortium.

7. Membership issue Private Universität Witten/Herdecke (PUW), Germany

Prof. Weigel, introduced the private university Witten /Herdecke to the GA. This university starts in 1983 with the focus of medicine education. Since it is a private university, they have an individual admission process such as a one day assessment center instead of only admit students based on the grade of the exam. Beside the medical education, in the past 35 years, the university has developed several Bachelor programme and master's programme such as Nursing Practice, Philosophy, Politics and Economics etc. They have the plan to develop a master of Global Child Health. According to this internationalization agenda and improve the visibility of the university, PUW would like to get the hand on experiences from the network and strength the capacity building for Global child health team and faculty. At this moment, the university can offer the network the expertise in global child health and some master thesis supervision. **For more details please see Annex 5**

Questions and answers:

Q: How it the Masters programme organized, contents, credits etc.?

A: The ECTS was well established and well used in the university. There is regular training for facilitators on how to write the learning objective, how to ensure the alignments etc. The accreditation is through external accreditation agency. Evaluation for programme and single courses are regularly reviewed.

Q: What about the student mobility of your programme?

A: We are part of Erasmus program. At this moment we have 25 Erasmus students. Students come from other European countries. We have an international office. We also have some fund support the student exchange. We still have some room to improve the mobility

Q: What about the international global health research? What are the research focus, and priority?

A: At this moment we still cannot be a tropEd home institution. The main research focus is not so many related to low and middle income settings. But we have the intent to open up the research topics.

Q: Whether the masters are graduate masters? Whether these is any course fit to tropEd curriculum right now?

A: Yes. They are graduate masters. At this moment we do not have any course ready for tropEd curriculum. We offer the medical students the introduction of global child health, We also have a four week trip to Malawi to identify and compare the health care services there, We also have forum discussion on what are the global health means etc.

Q: How is the study financed?

A: There are some student loans. We are not plan to making money out of the masters programme.

After vote, 13 members agree, 5 members with abstention, the GA then decide to invite the PUW to go on with the membership application process and fill in the self-evaluation form.

8. Accreditation and re-accreditation of advanced modules Result please see Annex 6

9. Financial auditing

Andrea and Friedemann have checked the financial report as internal auditors. The auditors recommended that the tropEd EC receive discharge for their work in 2017. The tropEd GA approved this recommendation unanimously (16/16 representatives present, no rejection, no abstention)

After voting, EC is released from the responsibility from the financial report 2017. The financial report will be sent to the lawyer.

10. Update of second tropEd alumni survey

Pauline presented part of the result from the 2nd alumni survey of the network. Lianne has already shared the raw data with the participating institutes. We have used quantitative survey with 45 questions as well as qualitative interviews. There are 146 alumni (both tropEd students and residential master students) answered the

questionnaire among the estimated 550 send out emails. Some analysis can be seen in Annex More detailed result will be presented in Berlin GA.

11. Updates on different organizations/PhD programme and Proposal for 2019 under the Marie Curie Scheme

- **Next ECTMIH** will be held in Liverpool, organized by the royal society of tropical medicine and international health, the exact date is 16-20 September 2019. So far we do not have any details on programmes. We will discuss the possible involvement of tropEd in Berlin GA.
- **Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH)** Since 2018 Nuria is selected to the member of board; Lisbon is one of the members in CUGH as well. This consortium starts as a north America network and it open to all of the world now. There is annual meetings, we are thinking about to give some presentation about tropEd during these meetings. Maria and Nuria will try on it. It is a good way to promote our programme, there are many students join the conference as well. CUGH receive funding from gates foundation. And running based on the fee of the members.
- **World Federation of Academic Institutions for Global Health (WFAIGH)**, does not have many activities, The members will meet during the CUGH conferences and WHS in Berlin, In between there are some phone conferences. The chair of the network has changed to John R. Finnegan, who was the chair of the American association of school in Public health.
- **Trans-global health Joint PhD programme:** The last call was in 2017. At this moment there are 35 PhD students in the programme. 4 students have already defended their theses. We are plan to apply for a new call in the.
- **Maria Curie scheme:** Since the Erasmus fund for PhD programme does not exist anymore, we would like to apply for Maria Curie scheme for PhD programme. The programme is quite different. Amsterdam is leading on this. So far Barcelona, Antwerp, Munich, Amsterdam and Stockholm have interest to join the consortium. As soon as we know more about it, we will open it to the network and welcome the tropEd members to join. There are three main research area:
 - Access to good quality medicines
 - Chronical diseased
 - Urban and environment health

12. tropEd recognition

- **Muoghalu, Ifeanyi Stanley** from Nigeria and from Charite Berlin fulfil the requirement of tropEd recognition and tropEd recognition certificate has been awarded.

13. Upcoming meeting, dates & locations

- **October 11-13 2018** **Berlin**
- 24-26 Jan or 31 Jan to 2 Feb 2019 **Lisbon** (Ning will make a doodle to decide the dates)
- May/June 2019 Uppsala? Brescia? (Ning will check with them)
- The next ECTMIH will be from 16 to 20 September 2019 in Liverpool. It will be difficult for us to combine an ECTMIH and tropEd GA meeting.

14. UCL issue:

One and half years ago, UCL asked all tropEd members to sign an agreement with UCL to ensure the student exchange and to avoid any legal problems. The suggestions to sign a MoU with the network or use the tropEd profile to serve this function were rejected by the university. For such a big network, to get all the agreement signed by all members it will take several years and may still not be reachable. Then we have suggested only signed by the members to whom UCL has ever sent their student in the past, the first round is about seven institutions. However, it is against our principle in the network and the free movement principle of the Bologna process. At this moment all these seven institutes are working on it. Two have agreed to sign this document. We need to know at least how many members from the network need to sign the agreement to keep UCL in the network. We also need to know the deadlines for this.

EC will send a statement to UCL to make it clear that we assume we cannot make any legal document from the network and it is going against our principles. We need to try to find a neutral way to ensure the collaboration. Carola will draft this statement.

- 15. **tropEd flyer/roll-up** Katherine can help us to design the new flyer and roll up. She will contact the relevant persons and ask for picture and texts etc. as she needs.

- 16. **Information: 4.-6. April 2019** in our Munich member institute will host the annual conference of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Tropenmedizin. This time the language will open up to English. Therefore all members and students are welcome to join.

17. Possible topics for future GA meetings:

- Whether virtual mobility counts as mobility?
- Result of Alumni survey on the first day in Berlin GA