

Winter 2020 Newsletter



Pictured: Atomium, Brussels – image by Evelyn de Bruin from Pixabay

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since I last wrote for the ASPHER newsletter, The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse have arrived big time – conquest, war, famine and death. Coronavirus, <u>plagues of locusts</u>, fire and flood, war, in its ageold forms continues, and conquest takes on newer subtler disguises. There has never been a more important or more difficult time to work in public health. Many have heard me say this, most recently in Porto.

ASPHER will continue to argue for the re-establishment of effective public health systems, for the control of communicable disease; pandemics are the most extreme concern, but not the daily concern. We greatly value our partnerships with WHO, ECDC, and other national and international bodies working tirelessly on coronavirus at present, and particularly in our work developing capacity and training. The public health community, however, appears to be uninvolved in the new disaster of the desert locust plague. This now affecting East Africa, the Horn of Africa, extending through Yemen and as far as Pakistan. It is undoubtedly linked to global climate breakdown. A new wave of the plague is anticipated in April and our responses have been weak. I shall be pleased to hear from anyone connected with the problem- directly as public health agencies or working with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization trying to tackle the red horse, Famine, later in the year.



The EU flag flying high in the Middleton household on 31st January 2020 – a sad day for all Europeans. But we will continue to fight for the European idea. If you will have us, we will be back!

We find the public health community ill-equipped and poorly connected for the new challenges of 'ISIS, crop failure and no antibiotics'; we need to grow our partnerships with international lawyers, political scientists, climate scientists and ecologists. To those new challenges we now operate in the era of surveillance capitalism, fake news and disinformation. We live increasingly in political systems with little respect for expertise, willing to destroy scientific capacity, ignore expert advice and promote disinformation. The 'merchants of doubt' have infiltrated all political systems and all aspects of policy making. The white horse, Conquest has taken on a new guise — a cadre of elite, super-rich, world leaders who see ignorance and partial information as virtues, suiting their control of power and misuse of wealth. And, as in the Australian fires, the UK floods, and in China in the early stages of coronavirus, these leaders show themselves to be rabbits in the headlights, incompetent and indecisive where lives and livelihoods matter.

Public health systems are being depleted; prominent public health figures removed <u>silenced</u>, <u>or ignored</u>. Dr Li Wenliang, is only <u>the most prominent of Chinese whistle blowers</u> who first expressed concern about the new COVID19 to have been killed by the virus or to have disappeared. It is timely that our intrepid <u>Talkpublichealth</u> team chose the theme of <u>whistleblowing for the public good</u> for their recent podcast. Well done Charles Hamilton and Naomi Nathan.

Public and environmental protections gained through regulation are under attack. Human health and planetary health will be the losers. Part of the global attack on regulation has taken off now with the

United Kingdom's tragic departure from the European Union. New trade negotiations are a threat to health in the UK and elsewhere in Europe. I was pleased to attend the launch of ASPHER member Chester University's PETRA project at the House of Lords on February 18th. Preventing disease through trade agreements is the first funded UK project to address some of the concerns about deregulation and seeking to maintain hard won health protections in future trade agreements.

Boris Johnson's Conservative Party won a landslide victory in the UK election under the slogan of 'Getting Brexit Done'. My commentary on this has appeared in the <u>ASPHER blog</u> and <u>BMJ Opinion</u>. Martin McKee has demonstrated just how far the <u>British Government is from 'getting Brexit done'</u>. We should all be extremely concerned at the rise of political posturing and appeal to popular and superficial solutions to our problems and the blaming others for our misconceptions and misjudgements. Trade negotiations will be protracted and a catastrophic <u>no deal is still very possible</u>. The UK also continues to create a <u>hostile environment on immigration</u>, indifferent to the <u>loss of EU expertise in science from the UK</u>.

Meanwhile ASPHER has welcomed the <u>new EU President Ursula Van Der Leyen</u> with her huge ambitions for the public and the planet's health. I have also written on <u>this for BMJ opinion</u>, pointing out the many health benefits the UK will miss out on. We also welcome <u>Health Commissioner Stella Kyriakides</u> and <u>Innovation and Young People's Commissioner</u>, <u>Mariya Gabriel</u>. Mariya has kindly agreed to be a speaker and patron of ASPHER's meeting in Sofia in June.

Since our last newsletter, we have completed an <u>ASPHER-PEER review</u> with Lisbon NOVA University and submitted a major bid to the Erasmus plus programme. Planning is at an advanced stage for our <u>Deans' & Directors' Retreat</u> in Sofia in June, and we are contributing to the <u>World Congress</u> in Rome in October. Do join us. I am extremely grateful to Robert Otok and Lore Leighton, the ASPHER Secretariat for their tireless efforts, helping me and the ASPHER Executive Board. I would also like to express my thanks to Julien Goodman for his support as we move APHEA to a new level of activity and influence; a short report on APHEA's work is included in this newsletter.

We have also launched the new <u>ASPHER 2025 strategy</u> consultation; we strongly urge you to respond. Give us your thoughts on how ASPHER can support you in the era of populism and planetary breakdown. We must keep our nerve and our professionalism, our expertise, our courage, and our humanity.

Yours in health.

John Middleton – President, ASPHER

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

ASPHER has been busy as always, as you can see from John Middleton's Message from the President. At the core of our efforts has been the <u>ASPHER 2025 Strategy – now in consultation</u>, and its accompanying elements such as the new membership policy. We believe it clarifies all the exciting benefits and services on offer as we focus more attention on Association Members, growing ASPHER and fulfilling its potential.

We're also gearing up to get ready for the Deans' & Directors' Retreat in beautiful Sofia, Bulgaria. The Retreat content will be guided by the ASPHER 2025 focus areas and we are very much looking forward to learning about your schools' good practices in public health training and beyond. Don't miss out on being an active participant at the Retreat by <u>submitting your abstract</u> by noon on Wednesday 11 March.

It is encouraging to follow the current policy dynamics resulting from recent political developments in health in Europe as reported in previous newsletters, including Ursula von der Leyen's <u>Beating Cancer Plan</u>, as well as at WHO Regional Office for Europe with Hans Kluge's launch of <u>United Action for Better Health</u>, a European Programme of Work to leave no one behind. Former ASPHER President Vesna Bjegovic-Mikanovic was happy to host Dr. Kluge at the School of Public Health in Belgrade a few days ago, and we look forward to him joining us in Sofia.

Here in Europe, the public health community is starting to grapple with the outbreak of coronavirus in Italy and elsewhere with 2,158 confirmed cases and 36 confirmed deaths in Europe at the time of this writing. Our members in Italy are already stepping up with Residents in Public Health at Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Milan involved in management of a suspect case: identifying contacts, providing practical information to employees, and responding to emergency number calls. This is Public Health in action as we are all challenged by COVID-19 and other emerging threats.

Before Sofia, ASPHER will also be going abroad for the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) Annual Meeting furthering our partnership and global impact. Both Association's will become founding members of the planned Global Network for Academic Public Health; watch ASPHER website and communications for more developments.

The Secretariat is delighted to introduce you to two <u>new ASPHER interns</u> this year, Fanny Goel Trevino Reyna and Rana Orhan. We are happy to have them on board to help us realize the exciting new offers for the 2025 Strategy term. They will be especially appreciated for input and insight on the first edition of the <u>Advance Forum</u> for young professionals during the 2020 Deans' & Directors' Retreat.

Finally, as mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, don't forget to submit an abstract for Rome 2020 – the deadline has been extended until Sunday 8 March! ASPHER will be strongly represented at the event with several planned sessions and activities. We know you won't want to miss being a part of the 16th World Congress on Public Health!

Very best wishes,

Robert Otok, Lore Leighton, Naomi Nathan – ASPHER Secretariat

Please enjoy this edition of the ASPHER newsletter and don't forget to share your news with lore.leighton@aspher.org to be included in the next issue or on the ASPHER website activity log. Finally, we always appreciate any comments and/or suggestions for improvements for us to consider for the newsletter - let us know!

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ASPHER DEANS' & DIRECTORS' RETREAT – SOFIA 2020

Call for Abstracts!







ASPHER is gearing up for an exciting Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Sofia, Bulgaria hosted by the Faculty of Public Health, Medical University Sofia, Bulgaria from Sunday, 31 May through Wednesday 3 June 2020. Many of you have already <u>registered</u> and the <u>Retreat Programme</u> is looking strong with leading representation from the European Commission and WHO Europe.

Don't miss the opportunity to be visible and actively contribute to the programme by sharing your work and experience. The <u>call for abstracts</u> is currently open until noon on Wednesday 11 March. We want the Retreat to showcase the exciting work and activities going on across the ASPHER network and we strongly encourage your schools to actively participate by submitting an abstract.

Advance Forum 2020

We are introducing an exciting new feature at the Retreat this year with the ASPHER Advance Forum for young public health professionals, a parallel track of activities running alongside the regular programme of the Retreat, designed and led by students and alumni of ASPHER member schools. It is an effort to foster the engagement, contribution and involvement of the young public health workforce in ASPHER and the wider Public Health Workforce development agenda. As such, it will also serve as an avenue for the conceptualisation of the proposed ASPHER Student and Alumni Network (SAN).

The Goals of the Advanced Forum are:

- Create an inclusive and horizontal participatory space to facilitate participation in the ASPHER Strategic Objectives 2025.
- Begin to develop relationships, ownership, support, mutual respect, trust, communication and influence with students and alumni.
- Produce and discuss ideas with students and alumni in a participatory way, as well as consult them on the creation of ASPHER SAN its vision, strategies, actions, etc.
- Stimulate action and interest in ASPHER SAN, as well as relevant stakeholder involvement.

Who is the Advanced Forum for?

Students and alumni from ASPHER member schools and programmes as well as deans and directors who would like to benefit from sessions led by the young public health workforce, designed in a world cafe methodology and interactive workshops, encouraging discussions and consultation.

We encourage public health schools to support their students and alumni in being a part of this exciting initiative. Early Bird Registration rates will be extended to all Advance Forum Participants. Consider sponsoring one of your recent graduates, advanced students or young faculty! We look forward to seeing you all in Sofia in May!

For more information always check the <u>Retreat website</u> or contact <u>office@aspher.org</u> and <u>aspher2020@foz.mu-sofia.bg</u> and stay tuned to #ASPHER2020 (social media).

ASPHER NEWS

Jeffrey Levett: ASPHER's International Peace Laureate



ASPHER congratulates Jeffrey Levett a long standing professor and dean of the Athens School of Public Health, past president, ASPHER and Member of the United Nations family of the European Center for Peace and Development, who has been designated an International Gusi Peace Laureate, 2019, for services to international public health, dissemination of Greek philosophical ideas and for work in academia.

This award was given in Manila for which he was given the Key to its City. It is referred to as the foremost award in Asia and Nobel peace prize of the East. It carries no monetary reward but comes with the expectation that its recipients will continue working for peace. For an extract from his acceptance speech and further reading click here.

Jeffrey Levett regularly writes for Wall Street International Magazine. Find his articles here.

ASPHER's Andrija Štampar Summer Educational & Tutoring School (ASSETS)

ASSETS offers an exclusive educational mentoring programme tailored to initiate such fruitful learning experiences. Instead of a classical school with multiple lectures presented to a passive audience, we intend to give to the students the necessary prominence while at the same time they get the inspiration and support of mentors. The idea is to ask each participant student (professional or aspiring public health professional) to bring a schematic idea, about a practical experience, project, master's thesis or doctoral thesis outline... within the public health and/or health system scope that can be presented in class in front of the experts and their peers.

The 2020 edition will be held at the <u>Andrija Štampar School of Public Health</u> in Zagreb, Croatia from 12-18 July.

Keep an eye on www.aspher.org and follow @ASPHERoffice on Twitter for the 2020 ASSETS Programme announcement. For more information contact Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org.

ASPHER Fellowship and New ASPHER Interns

Naomi Limaro Nathan, is currently taking steps to develop technical skills and expertise in her area of specialization – Health Systems Governance. She has continued to fulfill her fellowship objectives, working together with a team of dedicated students and alumni on shaping the relevant part of the ASPHER 2025 Agenda, focusing on young generation of public health professionals. She also continues the TIPH Europe Campaign coordination, supported by ASPHER Interns.

ASPHER is delighted to introduce two new Interns for 2020, Fanny Goel Trevino Reyna and Rana Orhan.



Fanny Goel Trevino Reyna is a licensed Medical Doctor, experienced in clinical practice, research and policy comparison. She holds a Master in Public Health from the University of Granada, Spain and is currently doing her second Master – in Governance and Leadership of European Public Health at the University of Maastricht, The Netherlands, as part of the European Public Health Master Programme – Europubhealth+.

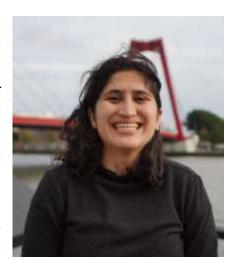
She will be collaborating with ASPHER with her thesis project regarding employment and job satisfaction of public health professionals, a poorly documented area within public health. The results will contribute to the current efforts of the professionalisation of public health.

Rana Orhan is a student in the end phase of the double degree European Master in Public Health – Europubhealth+. Coming from a medical background, she has been involved in student-led health organisations since 2013, currently as the Public Health Director of the European Medical Students'

Association (EMSA). When she is not studying or directing the association's work, she enjoys going to the cinema or exploring new music bands.

During her thesis project, Rana will assess the implementation of climate education amongst ASPHER members and explore how ASPHER can take climate action at member institutions. The results will be useful for ASPHER's strategic planning, and it can be used to share practices in the development of the European competency framework.

For more information about ASPHER Fellowship and Internship Programmes contact office@aspher.org.



THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH (TIPH) Europe Campaign

Winners of ASPHER's This is Public Health (TIPH) Europe challenge have launched their campaigns. Initial developments from the campaigns can be found in the <u>TIPH End of Year Report</u> and the teams are posting about their activities in the <u>ASPHER blog</u>. You will hear more as well when they report back to us on their campaign developments these days and at the TIPH Europe Campaign Gala during the Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Sofia!

Even if your school/programme was not selected for a grant this year, you can still participate in TIPH activities! A great example comes to us from the Swiss School of Public Health+, which is featuring a "This Is Public Health" Lecture Series.



We have a great team ready to consult with your school to set up and publicize your TIPH events! ASPHER Fellow Naomi Nathan, has now been joined by ASPHER Intern Fanny Goel Trevino Reyna and recent EuroPubHealth+ Graduate Taylor Harris.



We've already introduced you to Fanny as one of our new ASPHER Interns, but we'd also like to tell you more about Taylor. She recently graduated from the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree Programme in Public Health – Europubhealth+, with a Master of Public Health from the University of Sheffield and a Master of Health Promotion from the University of Granada. Taylor has a variety of international experience in health promotion, outreach, project management, event and conference planning, leadership, and education. Taylor believes that promoting public health is the most important step in improving the lives and wellbeing of all.

Don't hesitate to reach out to them with your ideas!

All ASPHER Members are eligible and encouraged to develop their own TIPH activities, however please notify us of your plans so that we can instruct you on proper use of TIPH social media links and reference lines. Please find the "How to join the TIPH Europe Campaign tool kit", with resources to include in your schools' activities, <u>here</u>. We also urge all to anticipate the call for proposals in 2020.

Please follow the TIPH Europe Campaign: Facebook <u>@TIPHEurope</u>, Instagram <u>@tipheurope</u> and Twitter page <u>@TIPH_Europe</u>, for more updates on the campaign. For more information and if you are interested in joining any of the activities, please contact <u>tiph@aspher.org</u>.

ASPHER PEER Mission to NOVA University Lisbon

ASPHER led a Public Health Education European Review (PEER) mission in December to <u>NOVA</u> <u>University Lisbon</u> with a great welcome and site visits to three dynamic Programmes at the University: <u>NOVA</u> <u>National School of Public Health</u>, the <u>Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine</u>, and <u>NOVA Medical School</u>.

ASPHER PEER is a flagship service of the Association exclusively available to members. Through PEER, ASPHER offers a cadre of expertise on the process of international peer review and standards; to evaluate and



provide recommendations for planning and improvement. This is not an accreditation service, but it is a flexible offer that may be tailored to specific development and pedagogic/other project needs as identified by Schools of Public Health and Public Health Programmes (SPHs/PHPs).

If you would be interested in PEER for your school or to learn more, contact Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org.

Short report from the EPH Conference – Marseille 2019



Andrija Stampar Medal 2019 and Plenary 4

ASPHER was proud to award Gaetano Maria Fara, Professor Emeritus of Public Health, Sapienza University of Rome with the Stampar Medal for his lifetime of dedication to Public Health. The ceremony took place during Plenary 4 and Professor Fara presented an overview of his achievements.

The Plenary on "Bridging towards the future of public health in Europe (II). Can we and how do we ensure Health in All EU Policies?" was moderated by Josep Figueras, Director – European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, with Anne Bucher, Director-General – DG SANTE, European Commission, Scott L. Greer, Professor of Health Management and Policy – University of Michigan, John Middleton, ASPHER President, and Marian Harkin,

Chair of All Policies for a Healthy Europe, Former Member of the European Parliament serving as Panelists. ASPHER Fellow, Naomi Nathan reported on the Plenary from the Newsroom along with Dorli Kahr-Gottlieb, Secretary General of the European Health Forum Gastein. Selected slides from the Plenary are available here.



Young Researchers Forum

The 12th Annual Young Researchers' Forum (YRF) was an exciting full day pre-conference event organised by <u>ASPHER</u> and <u>University College London (UCL) Digital Public Health</u> in partnership with <u>EUPHA</u>. In addition to the usual Poster and Oral Presentations there were special Demonstrations of Digital Public Health tools. There was also an interactive Missing Maps Workshop hosted by the British Red Cross and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and guest lectures by Emma Honkala, Consultant at WHO Europe; Stefan Buttigieg, Specialist Trainee in Public Health Medicine from Malta; and Prof. Gaetano Maria Fara, Andrija Stampar Medallist 2019.

ASPHER would like to congratulate all the participating Young Researchers and the winners of the 12th annual Young Researchers Forum – Marseille 2019:

Vasileios Nittas of the University of Zurich for the winning oral presentation on "Electronic patient-generated health data to facilitate disease prevention: current use and user-preferences".

Jonathan Roux of the University of Rennes for the winning poster presentation on "Reconstruction of inter-hospital chains of transmission of Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae in France using Bayesian framework".

For the full YRF programme click <u>here</u>.

This is Public Health (TIPH) and More



We were also pleased to have the APSHER booth so centrally located in the exhibition hall in Marseille, where we were joined by Member Schools, Faculty of Public Health, Medical University Sofia and Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health, IUPUI. We also hosted colleagues from Euronet MRPH+ who joined us in a bit of TIPH promotion and fun. It was great to have so much visibility and to have had so many of you stop by to see us and take your TIPH photos!

We look forward to seeing you again in the fall for the <u>16th World Congress on</u> Public Health in Rome!

Mission to Mongolia

ASPHER Immediate Past President Kasia Czabanowska recently visited the Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences (MNUMS) and its School of Public Health, hosting an Open Medical Institute Visiting Professorship supported by Austrian American Foundation and Maastricht University Department of International Health, CAPHRI, on the development of public health workforce and public health leadership. 400 public health professionals participated in the lectures delivered by Kasia; Public Health Leadership, The Road Map to Public Health Workforce Professionalisation and WHO-ASPHER Competency Framework for Public Health Workforce in the European Region showed the way to address some of the problems which public health professionals struggle with in Mongolia. Many countries face many of the same challenges and by sharing our experiences, data and expertise, we can learn and help each other. For more on public health activities in Mongolia see: Mongolia-WHO Country Cooperation Strategy 2017-2021. We look forward to MNUMS joining ASPHER soon!

WHO European Region Action Plan on Health Literacy

Valia Kalaitzi of University of Maastricht represented ASPHER at the WHO European Region Action Plan on Health Literacy Expert Meeting on 12 February, in Copenhagen. Click here for the meeting programme. For more on Global Health Literacy, see Kristine Sorensen's blog. ASPHER looks forward to staying involved in further Action Plan on Health Literacy activities.

InfAct Joint Action on Health Information

ASPHER joined <u>InfAct Joint Action on Health Information</u> for the meeting of Work Package 6 in Brussels on 21 February which will help bring together continuing education and training programmes

from across Europe on Health Information. Through country collaboration, InfAct streamlines health information activities across Europe. It builds towards a sustainable and solid infrastructure on EU health information and strengthens its core elements based on capacity building, health information tools and political support. We look forward to joining them again in early March for the second annual programme external evaluation meeting.

Brexit – Staying Connected



Pictured: The Union Jack still flies on the Pont de Jambes in Namur, Belgium

Some of our UK Members have personally shared their thoughts on Brexit, including ASPHER President, John Middleton who has written for the <u>ASPHER Blog</u> about this setback and the challenge it presents for the global public health community and Martin McKee, who has blogged on "Getting Brexit done?" for <u>thebmjopinion</u>. Also see tweets from John (aka, DoctorBlooz), <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

ASPHER's Honours Committee circulated communications regarding the day with former ASPHER President Anders Foldspang reinforcing that, "we will continue to strongly work for peace, friendship, social equality and health in all European countries." In reply, Honours Committee Chair Jose Martin-Moreno perhaps best expressed how we feel here at ASPHER: "There is no Brexit strong enough to break our friendship and desire to continue collaborating without borders or barriers in Public Health, and particularly within ASPHER."

ASPHER is saddened by the ultimate outcome of the United Kingdom leaving the European Union on 31 January 2020, but we are proud and happy to continue to count many strong UK schools amongst our members, including the recent addition of the <u>Faculty of Population Health Sciences</u> at University College, London. We are determined to build our connections in the country, which remains within the WHO European Region under which ASPHER operates.

It is now belated, but Anders has also suggested that we all hum <u>Auld Lang Syne</u> to mark this unhappy occasion.

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CALLS FOR ASPHER MEMBERS

ASPHER 2025 Agenda Consultation

We have now sent out the ASPHER 2025 Draft Strategy for consultation with all Members in good standing. The official deadline for feedback on the round 1 of consultation has passed, but we will still consider any comments you send to us through this Sunday 8 March.

The strategy contains three elements:

- 1. Agenda overview (for further prioritization) including core mission and enabling areas strategic objectives, activities and outputs;
- 2. Proposed membership fee scheme;
- 3. Overview of membership benefits and services.

Based on your feedback from the first consultation round, adjustments will be made and a second consultation draft will be circulated to both Members in good standing and key ASPHER Partners. The second (and final) consultation round will run until mid-April 2020.

It is critical that we hear from our Members now to know that we are taking the Association in a productive direction over the next five years. We are counting on you to make sure that ASPHER continues striving for excellence! If you have not received the material for consultation and believe you should have, please contact Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org.

Call for Abstracts: ASPHER 2020 Deans' & Directors' Retreat Deadline extended: 11 March 2020

Don't miss the opportunity to be visible and actively contribute to the ASPHER 2020 Deans' & Directors' Retreat Programme by sharing your work and experience of best practices in public health education and training (and more). We want the Retreat to showcase the exciting work and activities going on across the ASPHER network and we strongly encourage your School to actively participate by submitting an abstract.

See the Call for Abstracts here.

If you haven't done so already, don't forget to register here.

Call for Abstracts: 16th World Congress on Public Health 2020 Deadline extended: 8 March 2020

Abstracts for the workshops and single presentations for the <u>16th World Congress on Public Health</u> <u>2020</u> in Rome, Italy from 12 to 17 October can be submitted via the website until 1 March 2020. Do not miss the opportunity to be recognised for your hard work.

Detailed abstract instructions can be found here.

Registration for Rome 2020 is available here.

Call to Contribute: Diversity Teaching in Public Health Education

ASPHER would like to invite members to contribute to the development of teaching syllabi on diversity in public health education.

The diversity of society is increasing – or rather increasingly visible – and poses new challenges to public health systems. As hypothesised in minority stress theory and confirmed in empirical analysis, individuals categorised as members of a stigmatised minority population (e.g. LGBTQI, foreign-born, refugees, socio-economically deprived) experience a stressful social environment and a survival-related hypervigilance towards stressors (such as hate-motivated attacks) that cause higher rates of mental and physical health problems. Thus, it is highly important to reflect on diversity within public health education to prepare future public health professionals for these specific needs and challenges. That is why the ASPHER 2025 strategy takes up this cause with the aim to strengthen the education and training section by developing a syllabi on diversity.

What is planned?

ASPHER intends to take a leading role by bringing diversity more into the focus of teaching in the 2025 strategy. The teaching syllabi that offer guidance on how to address different dimensions of diversity and thereby, to complement the core competencies.

How can you contribute?

ASPHER is calling experts from member institutions who have been teaching on diversity topics, e.g. gender identity, sexual orientation, migration background, age, ability (...) to share their expertise in a newly founded working group that sets up teaching syllabi in an iterative process.

If you are interested in taking part in this initiative, please contact Lisa Wandschneider at Bielefeld School of Public Health (<u>lisa.wandschneider@uni-bielefeld.de</u>) to indicate your interest to participate

Call for Nominations: Andrija Stampar Medal 2020

Each year, ASPHER awards the prestigious Andrija Štampar Medal to a distinguished person for excellence in the field of Public Health. ASPHER is now looking for nominations for the 2020 Andrija Stampar Medal. Click <u>here</u> for more information and a list of past Stampar medalists.

Send your nominations for the Stampar Medal to Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org by Thursday 26 March 2020.

Call for Nominations: ASPHER President and Executive Board

ASPHER is looking for a new President to lead the Association for the 2021-2023 term and two new Executive Board members for the 2020-2022 term. Send us your nominations for the best amongst you to guide ASPHER into the future of the 2025 Agenda.

Send your nominations for ASPHER President and Executive Board to Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org by Thursday 26 March 2020.

Call for Nominations: ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Good Practice Award 2020

This yearly award, in which all ASPHER members are invited to participate, will showcase the best master programmes and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses offered by members of the Association. Three main characteristics of the programmes and courses will be assessed: impact, internationalisation, and innovation. These characteristics will be assessed by a panel of independent experts.

The aim of the award is to promote excellence in public health education and training across Europe by encouraging ASPHER member schools to share their best practices and success stories.

Click here for more information and a list of former winners.

Send your nominations for the Good Practice Award to Robert at <u>robert.otok@aspher.org</u> by Thursday 26 March 2020.

Sign the Petition! ASPHER Supports the Andalusian School of Public Health

ASPHER supports our Member School, the Andalusian School of Public Health (EASP) and urges our other Members to sign the petition to preserve EASP's role and identity in light of the bill (proposed legislation) introduced on the 30th December 2019 by the parliamentary group of the Spanish People's Party (PP-Partido Popular), which textually considers, in its first final provision, item 2, the "extinction and dissolution by merger and transformation" of the Andalusian School of Public Health (EASP).

In short, because the "extinction and dissolution" of EASP would mean the loss of:

- 1. An accredited School of Public Health of national and international prestige, which would lose milestones and alliances achieved through continued work and dedication over the past 35 years:
- As a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre.
- As a member of the major international associations of schools of public health and health management.
- National and international partnerships with institutions and universities (accounting for more than 70 collaboration agreements).
- Collaboration agreement with the University of Granada since 1988 (14 postgraduate degrees), with Universities of Seville, Jaén and Córdoba, and other national and international universities.
- As an institution working for and to improve the health and welfare of the population, that champions participation and the rights of patients and has trained more than 25,000 people with chronic diseases in Andalusia.
- 2. An institution of reference in Granada that organises internship programmes and visits from international institutions, scientific meetings (over 60 per year) and courses with thousands of attendees, accounting for a significant economic and social impact on the city.

- 3. An institution that combines academic work and knowledge generation with the translation of this knowledge into action to improve health services and clinical practice.
- 4. An equity- and equality-oriented School focusing on improving population health.

Read more (in Spanish and English) and sign the petition here.

Updating the ASPHER Website and School Profiles

We are continually working to update and improve ASPHER's website to serve you better. One or our goals is to include profiles for each of our member schools in the <u>ASPHER Directory</u>. This can include background on the school as well as the programmes offered.

We are calling on you to provide a profile, ideally both in English and your local country language. You may register to receive administrator permissions to update your school's page directly or you can send your school's profile and related materials to lore.leighton@ashper.org. We will be updating member competency profiles with this information as well your answers to the Core Competencies
Survey. Additionally, ASPHER's website contains a document repository where we can add documents including your school's brochure; courses and programmes; education and training materials; as well as other material.

We also welcome all suggestions for how we can put ASPHER's site to better use for your school, faculty and students!

Public Health Reviews - Join the Editorial Board

As ASPHER's Society Journal, *Public Health Reviews* is looking for ways to best serve the ASPHER community. We are looking for candidates from member schools who would like to join the Journal's Editorial Board and participate as Associate Editors. Help shape the direction of the journal to meet the needs of the ASPHER community and the field of Public Health in Europe.

We hope that by keeping the Journal open access the articles can serve as a resource for your schools and your students. But we also want to be a repository for state of the art initiatives in education and training and to showcase research from ASPHER member schools. To this end, we have an ongoing open collection devoted to Public Health Education and Workforce Training. If your school has a novel programme or new approach, we invite you to submit your work for publication.

Additionally, we are currently looking for review papers on the topics of food, nutrition and micronutrients; vaccination and infectious disease; public health law; and migration and training.

Look forward to more exciting developments in our next newsletter as we work to restructure the Editorial Board.

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Please contact Lore Leighton (lore, leighton @aspher, org) with any questions.

ASPHER SURVEYS

Public Health Education and Social Accountability Study

ASPHER would like to invite you to collaborate in a study entitled: "Public Health Education and Social Accountability in Europe" We will still be individually contacting those who expressed interest in the Study. We apologize for the delay, but it has been a busy time period. The study is in progress and you will hear more about it very soon and with initial reporting at the Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Sofia, linking with other ASPHER activities.

Public Health education and training has the ability to provide the enabling environment for socially oriented public health professionals who are highly involved in activities that benefit the community. This study would try to measure the correlation between public health education and training and the direct impact of public health professionals on their respective communities and health inequalities in the European region.

In preparation for the launch of Public Health Education and Social Accountability Survey, we have revised the questions taking into account the comments we received from pilot schools. Many thanks to all of you who provided feedback at the pilot stage. We believe this is an important study and hope participation of ASPHER members will be high. For the next step we will need:

If you are interested in taking part in this study, what is required of you is to appoint a contact person to coordinate the research at your institution, who will be responsible for sending the link to the questionnaire for the research population.

We believe that this Europe wide study offers a starting point for more in-depth country- or school-level efforts. We will specially acknowledge the work and local support from the focal points and translators which will be critical to carry this forward.

The study will inform the wrap up of the ASPHER 2020 strategy and even more importantly set a base for further relevant agenda under ASPHER 2025. Importantly, the findings of this study will be available to support any relevant funding efforts linking public health education and training with positive health outcomes and inequities challenges.

Please email the following if interested to be part of that:

Nadav Davidovitch, SPH, Ben Gurion University, Israel. Email: nadavd@bgu.ac.il
Keren Dopelt, SPH, Ben Gurion University, Israel. Email: dopelt@bgu.ac.il

Robert Otok, ASPHER. Email: robert.otok@aspher.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS: SAVE THE DATES!

2020 ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat

31 May-3 June 2020, Sofia, Bulgaria.

For more information always check the <u>Retreat website</u> or contact <u>office@aspher.org</u> and <u>aspher2020@foz.mu-sofia.bg</u> and stay tuned to #ASPHER2020 (social media).

2020 ASPHER - ASSETS Summer School

The 2020 edition of the <u>Andrija Štampar Educational & Tutoring Summer School</u> (ASSETS) will be held from 12-18 July at the <u>Andrija Štampar School of Public Health</u> in Zagreb, Croatia. The main class programme will be held from 12-17 July followed by a social programme on 18 July.

Keep an eye on www.aspher.org and follow @ASPHERoffice on Twitter for the 2020 ASSETS Programme announcement. For more information contact Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org.

16th World Congress on Public Health 2020 12 – 17 October 2020, Rome, Italy

The theme of the Congress, Public Health for the Future of Humanity: Analysis, Advocacy, and Action, reflects our firm commitment that we, in the global public health community, have an obligation to respond to emerging global threats and challenges. We must hold to account those with the power to make a difference. We must act, making real our commitment to health in all policies. In a series of eight plenary sessions we will further explore these challenges and actions.

Mind the deadline. Abstracts for workshops and single presentations can be submitted via the website until 8 March 2020. Do not miss the opportunity to be recognised for your hard work. Detailed instructions can be found here.



13th ASPHER Young Researchers Forum at WCPH 2020

ASPHER is thrilled to be bringing the 13th Annual <u>Young Researchers</u>' Forum (YRF) to you in Rome as a part of the special <u>International Students Meet on Public Health (ISMOPH) Conference</u>.

In recognition of the key role Students and Young Professionals play working in Public and Global Health, the WCPH 2020 is organizing a half-day conference, which will take place before the World Congress on Sunday 11 October 2020. This year ISMOPH has the pleasure to host the ASPHER YRF that will award the best abstracts submitted by young professionals with free entrance to WCPH 2020.

This conference will provide a venue for Students and Young Professionals to participate in seminars and workshops organized by world-class speakers and young leaders. YRF winners will present their

research outcomes to their peers and senior professionals attending. The conference will simultaneously provide a place to share experiences and strengthen networks as well as a space to establish the vital call to action needed for what matters most to the young generation.

For more information, please visit the <u>ISMOPH Facebook group</u>. For more information on the ASPHER YRF and the Call for Abstracts (coming soon!), click <u>here</u>.

BE THERE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BE THERE TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

For more information see: https://wcph2020.com/

EUPHA Section Health Workforce Research Conference 18 – 19 June 2020, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

The EUPHA section on Health Workforce Research is organizing a Mid-term Conference, on: "How to make a future health workforce happen? Policy, practice and people" in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 18-19 June 2020. The Conference sets the focus on implementation of new health workforce policies, in collaboration with colleagues from the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, WHO Regional Office for Europe – Programme on Human Resources for Health, ASPHER, and EUPHA section Health Services Research (HSR).

The importance of a sustainable health workforce is increasingly recognised in Europe. Novel policy frameworks and comprehensive tools, such as the National Health Workforce Accounts (NHWA), are now available. Data, monitoring systems and research evidence have all markedly improved over recent years, thus we know better what is driving change in the supply, need and demand for healthcare workers, and what strategies could improve people-centred health workforce governance and service delivery. However, it is not well understood how to make a future health workforce happen and how this impacts healthcare services for the population. All European countries are struggling to prepare their workforce to effectively respond to demographic changes, to an increase of chronic diseases and multi-morbidity, to mal-distribution of skills and staff, and to demand for new competencies related to eHealth, globalisation and climate change. Growing migration and mobility flows add further challenges, which may threaten Eastern European healthcare systems the most, thus reinforcing European and global inequality. Health workforce challenges have arrived at a critical point where action is urgently needed.

The Conference is planned as a full two-day workshop. See the conference website for details and updates: www.hwrconference.publichealth.ro.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ASPHER MEMBERS

HAPP-E: Health of Adult People Born Preterm

The Institute of Public Health of the University of Porto (ISPUP) just launched "HAPP-e: Health of Adult People born Preterm — an ecohort pilot study" to study health and quality of life of adults born preterm worldwide, using digital tools.

Adults with a history of preterm birth represent a growing share of the population today. Evidence shows that the majority of preterm infants adapt extremely well during the transition to adult life. However, a significant part remains at higher risk for neurologic,



behavioural and personality disorders, as well as metabolic and cardiovascular problems, when compared with term-born adults.

The research group at ISPUP aims to study the consequences of preterm birth in later life and produce scientific evidence that will lead to better health policies and outcomes for this generation of adults born preterm and the ones to come. The e-cohort takes advantage of digital tools to recruit and follow up of the participants online and reach diverse and geographically disperse populations that would not be recruited by traditional means.

At this stage, given the global aspect of the project, the questionnaire is available in Portuguese, English, French and German. ISPUP is now requesting ASPHER members and schools to help share the project within their networks and mailing lists, as well as on social media, such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Help ISPUP find participants for the study! Dissemination materials (text and visuals) to share at your school are available here.

This e-cohort is part of the project <u>RECAP-Preterm</u> and has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 733280.

Congratulations as well to ISPUP on their 25th Anniversary Celebrations!

SSPH+/ETHZ Lecture Series "This Is Public Health" 19 Feb - 27 May 2020, Live streaming



The Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+) invites you to join their 15-year Jubilee events: the SSPH+/ETHZ Lecture Series "This Is Public Health".

Lectures will be live streamed on Wednesdays at 17:15-18:15, from February 19 to May 27, 2020 (except 15 April and 20 May) at: http://www.ssphplus.ch/tiph-lectures.

Information on the topics and speakers as well as the links to reading material are available on http://www.ssphplus.ch/tiph-lectures.

Each lecture (~30 min) is followed by a student-led discussion. Though ETH bachelor students in medicine are a target audience, everybody interested in current challenges in public health sciences are highly welcomed (e.g. master and PhD students, scholars in medicine and health sciences, faculty, and other local or global guests). Either come to the ETH auditorium or join via live-stream.

For information, contact Agne: agne.ulyte@uzh.ch.

Causal Inference for Assessing Effectiveness in Real World Data and Clinical Trials: A Practical Hands-on Workshop 16-20 March 2020, Hall, Tirol, Austria

The HTADS Continuing Education Program at UMIT Health and Life Sciences University is pleased to announce their 5-Day Certificate Course "Causal Inference for Assessing Effectiveness in Real World Data and Clinical Trials: A Practical Hands-on Workshop", 16-20 March 2020 to be held in Hall in Tirol, Austria



The workshop combines lectures, discussions, exercises, and hands-on computer lab sessions in the key elements and methods of Causal Inference. Find more about the workshop announcement here.

Learn more about this and other upcoming continuing education courses from UMIT here.

Better Future of Healthy Ageing Conference 6-7 April 2020, Zagreb, Croatia

The Better Future of Healthy Ageing (BFHA) 2020 high level scientific conference will take place from 6-7 April 2020 in Zagreb, Croatia. BFHA2020 is organized by the University of Zagreb School of Medicine, in cooperation with the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia and under the auspices of the European Commission as part of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The mission of the BFHA2020 is to stimulate research, implementation and scaling up innovations to manage health and wellbeing of the ageing population. We aim to enable discussion on the importance of the transformation of health and current healthcare services into more digitized, long-term, integrated and personalized models while promoting innovative ecosystems in order to deliver better quality of life among the elderly.

In line with this mission the conference will address the growing demand caused by global trends of population ageing and the expansion of chronic disease by focusing on potential large-scale implementation implementation to foster the functional ability and wellbeing of older people.

Find more announcement information <u>here</u>.







13th International Scientific Conference – International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife 4 June 2020, Bled, Slovenia

Angela Boškin Faculty of Health Care is pleased to invite you to the <u>13th International Scientific</u> <u>Conference</u>: Responsibilities of health policy-makers and managers for the retention and development of nurses and other healthcare professionals – 2020: International year of the nurse and the midwife. It will be held on 4th June 2020, in Bled, Slovenia.

The 2020 Conference is placed in the context of the International Year of Nursing and Midwifery. It is intended to present current research and development activities of integrated prevention and health promotion in the field of health care. To this end, the European Association ASPHER (The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region) will join us.

Find more announcement information <u>here</u>.

5th European Summer School of Evidence-Based Public Health 20-24 July 2020, Munich, Germany

The Pettenkofer School of Public Health, Ludwig-Maximilians University, and University of Liverpool will be holding the 5th European Summer School of Evidence-Based Public Health in Munich from 20th to 24th July 2020.

The Summer School is ideal for:

- Researchers planning to undertake systematic reviews of public health interventions or working on other aspects of evidence- based public health;
- Researchers and professionals wishing to embrace and implement a complexity perspective in their public health activities;
- Mid-career professionals working in public health institutions; and
- Students undertaking a Master or PhD in Public Health or Epidemiology and wishing to embark on a career in evidence-based public health.

Find more announcement information here.

V International School on Public Mental Health 21-25 September 2020, Porto, Lisbon

The Institute of Public Health of the University of Porto (ISPUP) in partnership with the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) will organize the V International School on Public Mental Health, entitled "Violence and Public Mental Health – a global perspective", 21-25 September 2020 in Porto, Portugal. The Programme will be available soon. Find more information here.

ASPHER PARTNERS AND BEYOND

News from APHEA

As many of you know the Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation (APHEA) is a long-term project of ASPHER's which began back in 2001 when the ASPHER Dean's and Director's voted to expand the PEER review into accreditation. The peer-led quality improvement focus of PEER remains the pumping heart of APHEA which is now being implemented across the globe.

Things are going very well. In 2019 we saw the first returning accredited schools and programmes and so far, all of the original accredited applicants are returning for their periodic reviews. Along with accreditations in the UK (LSHTM), Sweden (ECDC) and Poland (School of Public health in Bytom, Silesia), we also expanded our global influence with accreditations in Africa, Asia and North America. We are presently involved with 21 accreditations globally.

This progress has only been possible with the support of the European associations that helped us establish and who are now retiring at the end of their mandates. New members and a Board of Directors will be inaugurated in 2020 to reflect our growing global outlook. These changes are being led by John Middleton who quickly and competently took the APHEA helm at the beginning of his tenure as ASPHER President. APHEA is further supported by the long-standing and exceptionally brilliant Board of Accreditation headed by Selena Gray since Chris Potter retired after 5 years in 2019.

If you would like to know more about how this successful global project of ASPHER is progressing and even ways in which you might be become involved, please take a look at our website here, or our Annual report from 2019 here, or come and find us at the Deans and Directors in Sofia.

Julien Goodman, Director

European Public Health Week (EUPHW) 11-15 May 2020

EUPHA is organizing the 2nd edition of the European Public Health Week. Find out more about the daily themes and how you can get involved here.

2020 ASPPH Annual Meeting and Undergraduate Summit 18-20 March, Arlington, VA, USA

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) in North America provides a meeting for networking opportunities for academic public health professionals and partners. The meetings include thought-provoking plenary and concurrent sessions to advance public health teaching, research, and practice. Join in the unique experiences of discovery and knowledge sharing that academic public health leaders carry back to their schools and programs.

The 2020 Undergraduate Public Health and Global Health Education Summit will be held March 18.

More information and registration by March 6 available here.

Roma Environmental Justice Conference 26 March 2020

The European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), and ERGO Network are organizing the "Roma Environmental Justice Conference".

Evidence consistently shows higher rates of illness and mortality among Roma linked to poor housing conditions, higher exposure to air, water and ground pollution, poor diets, higher vulnerability to food insecurity. This must change. This event aims to create a higher awareness of environmental determinants of health, and to set the issue of environmental discrimination against Roma communities and its impact on health on the European and national political agenda.

More information and registration available <u>here</u>.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

Public Health Reviews Collection: Human Rights in Patient Care

Legal, ethical, and human rights norms are an increasingly important component of the delivery of quality medical care. For society's most marginalized, health care settings are too often places of punishment, coercion, or violations of basic rights to consent and confidentiality, rather than places of treatment and care. At the same time, health practitioners may be unaware of how to incorporate ethics and human rights norms into their work and may suffer from a lack of independence, decent working conditions, and due process protections.

The concept of human rights in patient care brings together the rights of both patients and health care providers and refers to the application of general human rights principles to the context of patient care. It focuses on systemic issues and the role of the state.

This article collection explores various aspects of human rights in patient care. This includes state responsibility in private health facilities, intersections with palliative care and reproductive health, and dimensions relevant to particular populations, including Roma, people who use drugs, and transgender individuals.

Edited by Tamar Ezer and Judy Overall, the full <u>article collection</u> on Human Rights in Patient Care is now available from <u>Public Health Reviews</u>.

Public Health Scientists in the Crosshairs

In the 21 February edition of Science, authors from Bielefeld University responded to an editorial entitled "Stick to Science", which emphasises the need of evidence-based decision-making. In times of populist movements and 'post-truth-politics' this feels particularly personal to public health scientists, who cannot stay out of politics (and legislation) given the potential for populist policies—or any policy put in place uninformed by evidence—to negatively affect health. We urge all

governments to protect academic freedom and emphasise the need to advocate for scientific autonomy, if needed with the support of education and human rights organizations. Read their Letter "Public Health Scientists in the Crosshairs".

Conference Proceedings: Do Micronutrient Deficiency Conditions Exist in Israel?

On 7 November 2019 <u>Ashkelon Academic College</u> held a conference on micronutrient Deficiencies and Food Fortification in Israel in joint sponsorship with the <u>Israel Ministry of Health</u> and the Israeli Association of Public Health Physicians.

The full conference proceedings are now available to download here.

Jeffrey Levett in Wall Street International Magazine

Former ASPHER President (1992-1993) Jeffrey Levett is a regularly contributing author to *Wall Street International Magazine* where he writes on a variety of topics. Read his articles here, including his latest piece on Coronavirus, "Hidden Devils, Lepers and Warning Bells." His pre-publication musings on "2019 in Relief Reviewed" are already available on the ASPHER blog where he ties in his time at the 2019 ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Erice, Italy to a call for a step down from nuclear brinkmanship.

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OPPORTUNITIES

EuroPubHealth+ Master in Public Health

Choose Europe for your Master in Public Health with the <u>Europubhealth+</u> European Master in Public Health. <u>See 6 good reasons to join Europubhealth+</u>!

Applications for September 2020 intake are now open!

Application deadlines:

- 4th March 2020 for Non-European candidates applying for the University of Liege (Belgium) as self-funded students.
- 6th May 2020 for all candidates applying as self-funded students.

The Europubhealth+ Master course is:

- a 2-year multidisciplinary Master course in public health
- delivered by a consoritum of <u>8 European universities</u> leading to an internationally recognized double Master's degree
- an intercultural environment of study, in up to 3 languages: English, Spanish or French.

The Europubhealth+ programme is an <u>Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree</u> that has been recognized as a Master of Excellence by the European Commission since 2006.

For more information on the 2020 programme see the <u>leaflet</u>.

For application details and selection procedures click here.

ASPPH Public Health Summer Internship

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) is now accepting applications for the ASPPH Internship Program for Summer 2020. This internship program is based at ASPPH headquarters in Washington, DC and will provide a unique experience where the selected students can apply their skills and knowledge learned in the classroom to projects of importance to ASPPH and ASPPH-members.

Internships will be 10-12 weeks in length over the summer of 2020. Candidates for the internship positions will be contacted in April to interview for specific projects related to public health education and outreach, data analysis, and information technology.

The deadline to apply is Friday, March 20, 2020. This is a paid internship program.

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or hold visas permitting permanent residence ("Green Card") in the U.S. Candidates must be an undergraduate or graduate student at the time of application and must be able to relocate to Washington, DC to begin the internship in late-May or early-June 2020. Relocation expenses will not be covered. Questions can be directed to info@aspph.org

Learn more here.

Partner Organizations

Don't forget to visit our partner organizations' websites and newsletters to see what they are up to! EUPHA, EPHA, EPH Conference, ASPPH, IANPHI, EuroNet.

Share the ASPHER newsletter!



READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE

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| Twitter | LinkedIn |