



FEDERATION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSES WITHIN THE EUROPEAN UNION

## PRESS RELEASE LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

The Federation of Occupational Health Nurses within the European Union held its 32<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia 21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010. The meeting was hosted by the Chamber of Medical and Midwifery Care. The President, Nevenka Šesta is the FOHNEU representative of Slovenia.

It was attended by 17 representatives from member countries. Observers were present from Spain, Slovenia and Turkey. The Board were delighted to welcome a new observer state, Croatia who was found via the FOHNEU Twinning Project.

*During this meeting the Board;*

- Elected a new Treasurer, Eileen Sykes from Ireland.
- Re-elected Julie Staun as President.
- Promoted the EU-OSHA Campaign at national level.
- Decided on the main themes and speakers for the next FOHNEU Congress, Tarragona, 2012
- Presented the new [FOHNEU](http://www.fohneu.org) web site which is maintained by our own Officers.

### Here are some highlights from the National Updates

#### Malta

The Health Minister has agreed to open two OH Nurse positions, a very positive step following much lobbying and helped by FOHNEU in raising the profile of the OH Nurse during the board meeting held there in 2009.

#### Denmark

The FOHNEU President Julie Staun has been awarded a special prize for her work to educate, organise and promote the work of Occupational Health Nurses in Denmark and the

EU.

The prize was awarded for the first time at the National Congress of the Danish Nurses Organisation in Copenhagen in May.

### **Finland**

Improving working capacity and well being are the main topics in view of further lengthening of working life.

### **Hungary**

There are many OH events being organised. At a recent Congress of the Scientific Society for OH Medicine and Nursing, the FOHNEU Vice-President, Henriett Hirdi gave a presentation and promoted Tarragona 2012 and the EU-OSHA campaign.

### **Ireland**

The Annual Conference will take place in March 2011.

### **Greece**

Strikes are in the news due to cutbacks and a new pension system. Amendments will be made for certain jobs considered to be difficult but as in France there are many claimants for this. There has been some improvement on legislation. OH and safety are put together in one text.

### **France**

The GIT<sup>i</sup> are working on their next “National Study Days” which will take place near Paris, October 2011. These events have proved to be a great success in recent years.

### **Spain**

The FEDEET<sup>ii</sup> will hold their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference in March 2011.

**The next FOHNEU Board Meeting will take place in Dublin, Ireland 26<sup>th</sup> - 28th May 2010.**

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<sup>i</sup> *Groupement des Infirmiers au Santé au Travail*

<sup>ii</sup> *Federación Española De Enfermería del Trabajo*