25th International Conference on Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services

This year in April, the Austrian HPH Network of Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Care Institutions (ONGKG) invited all of their HPH colleagues and other interested to join the celebration of the 25th anniversary of international HPH conference. The conference took place within the walls of the magnificent and historic University of Vienna, which was founded back in 1365 and is one of the oldest universities in Europe.

Since the early years, when HPH was merely a European WHO initiative, a global expansion has taken place and today, the International HPH Network consists of more than 600 hospital and health service members from all over the world.

Due to the long history, a long list of exciting ideas, projects and events have taken place under the wings of HPH. To celebrate the history as well as a promising future for HPH, the focus and theme for this year’s conference was: Directions for Health Promoting Health Care – Lessons from the past, solutions for the future.

Two days prior to the opening day of the conference in Vienna, the WHO-CC for Evidence-based Health Promotion in Hospitals and Health Services held this year’s HPH Summer School and HPH Newcomers’ Workshop. Both events gave the participants, new within the HPH as well as experienced, an opportunity to gain insights and inspiration in the area of Health Promotion in hospitals and health services.

The formal opening of the 25th International HPH Conference took place in the afternoon on Wednesday 12, and included presentations from a wide range of professionals giving an insight in the history of the HPH Network.

The formal opening was followed by the first of five plenaries, which aimed at introducing the participants to the celebration of the achievements from the past as well as identifying challenges for the future. The following four plenaries had the following titles:

- The role of health promoting health care to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals: steps towards 2030
- Transforming health care to empower and meet the health needs of refugees and migrants
- Contributions of health care to mitigating and adapting to climate change
- Reorienting health services and systems: 30 years after the Ottawa Charter

In the following days, the beautiful University of Vienna was transformed into a world of HPH and in addition to the five plenaries, a long list of oral presentations and poster sessions gave the participants an update and introduction to the many ongoing research projects and initiatives taking place to promote health promotion globally.

On Thursday night, the annual conference dinner took place on the Donau on the boat MS Admiral Tegetthoff.
General Assembly 2017, Vienna, Austria

On April 12, 2017, the annual HPH General Assembly (GA) took place in Vienna, Austria. It was the 23rd Meeting between the coordinators of the National/Regional Networks, the HPH Task Force Leaders, partners, and invited observers. and of course the WHO Collaborating Centre for Evidence-Based Health Promotion in Hospitals & Health Services in Copenhagen and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion in Hospitals and Health Care in Vienna.

The General Assembly was arranged by the International HPH Secretariat and all sessions were chaired by members of the HPH Governance Board and by the WHOCCs.

The first order of business was a closed HPH Workshop for N/R Coordinators and the Task Force leaders to discuss the role of the Coordinators. After a short break, an open-door Workshop began, which gave networks, task forces, partner organizations, hospitals or other organizations the opportunity to invite some of their colleagues to take part in the workshop from the observer seats. The aim of this second workshop was to discuss the implementation of the 2016-2018 HPH Strategy.

The formal GA agenda opened with the progress report of the HPH Governance Board. Subsequently, the international HPH Secretariat gave a report on member status, balance and budgeting, as well as the 2015-2016 Progress Report with reports on the N/R Networks and TF fulfilment of the HPH Global Strategy 2013-2015.

Afterwards, the updated WHO HPH Standards were presented to the GA. The updated standards have a tested beta version, and with an expert hearing planned in spring, the finalization is expected in autumn 2017.

In the afternoon, the GA delegates were updated on the progress of the each of the HPH Task Forces as well as the two HPH Working Groups.

The GA had a vote for the 2019 conference host, with Poland given the conference to be held in Warsaw in June 2019. Estonia was decided for the 2020 conference.

26th international HPH Conference in Bologna, Italy

Promotion Strategies to achieve Reorientation of Health Services: Evidence-Based Policies and Practices

The annual HPH Conference on Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services will take place June 6-8, 2018 in Bologna, Italy next year.

The conference will open for abstract submission and registration in November 2017. Please remember, that early registration guarantee a reduced participation fee.

For more information, please visit the website: https://www.hphconferences.org/bologna2018