

New Executive Director

The Board is delighted to introduce Simone Hull, who will be taking over as Executive Director of the Association.

Simone joined the AHRC/SCRIPT Centre as Administrator in January this year. Hailing from the North coast of Cornwall, Simone gained an MA (hons) in Linguistics and English Language from the University of Edinburgh in 2005 and has subsequently worked in Administration at the University of Edinburgh for the Department of Geography and the Centres of Canadian Studies and South Asian Studies.

Her responsibilities as Executive Director for the EAHL will include:

- Servicing of the Association's Boards, Committees and General Assembly
- Financial Management
- Membership registration
- Assisting with Association activities
- Coordinating and disseminating information

She will also be the first point of contact for all enquiries regarding the Association.

Secretary to the Board

The EAHL would like to announce that as of 26th January 2009, Kathryn Hunter assumed the position of Secretary to the Board. She will be the academic coordinator for all Association events and activities.



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EAHL 2008

The European Association of Health Law (EAHL) held its Founding Conference at the Royal Society of Edinburgh on 10th-11th April 2008. It was attended by over 100 delegates from 23 countries.

Fifteen (15) outstanding posters were presented and delegates voted over the two days of the conference on the best entry. The winner was Thomas Goffin from Leuven University. Congratulations Tom!

What can you expect of the European Association of Health Law?

The conference was also an occasion to discuss the Association's Constitution and its operating procedures. The organisational structure of the Association, including its Constitution (which was approved at the conference), can be found at the Association's website at: <http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/eahl/eahl2008report/>

The following was agreed with respect to the philosophy, objectives and future action of the EAHL:

- Identifying unmet needs in the European health law context
- Bi-Annual Conference (see page 2 for more information on this)
- The future Programme of Action of the EAHL
 - Working Groups (see page 3 for more information on this)
 - Interest Groups (see page 4 for more information on this)
- Membership to the Association

EAHL Conference 2009



Pictures from the 2008 Conference

Following the success of the 2008 Conference, the 2009 Conference will again be held in Edinburgh, at the Royal College of Physicians, on 15-16 October 2009. The title of this year's conference is: *Learning Lessons and Making Differences: Improving the Future of Health Law in Europe*. There will be two themes:

- a. Contemporary challenges in health law in Europe
- b. Comparison and harmonisation in health law in Europe

Suggested topics include:

- Organs, tissues & cells: transplantation, safety & cross-border use
- e-Health and ICT
- Advanced therapies (human tissue engineering, gene therapy, somatic cell therapy)
- Circumcision: legal and ethical issues
- Influenza: pandemic preparedness
- Clinical Photography
- Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine: scientific, technological and implementation challenges
- Population screening/genetic testing for non-healthcare purposes
- Access to pharmaceuticals
- Proxy consent in healthcare and other fields of law
- Civil and criminal liability for injury to health and persons
- Commercialisation and intellectual property aspects of healthcare
- Healthcare and immigration law

Conference registration will be opening soon. The registration fees will be:

Full Fee: Non members €90; Members €75

Students/ Eastern Europe: Non members €35; Members €25

Check out the EAHL website for further announcements:

<http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/eahl>

Call For Papers

Due to a number of enquiries subsequent to the original closing date, we have extended the deadline for abstracts until 15 March 2009.

To apply to present a paper, please send an email to :
Kathryn.Hunter@ed.ac.uk with the following information:

- Name, institution and contact details
- Title of the Paper
- A brief abstract of your paper (no longer than 250 words)
- Please enter the following in the subject line of your email: EAHL 2009 PAPER ABSTRACT

Call for Posters

We will be holding two poster competitions this year, one for students and one for Early Career Researchers, with prizes for the best entries as decided by the delegates to the conference.

To apply to present a poster, please send an email to
Kathryn.Hunter@ed.ac.uk with the following information:

- Name, institution and contact details
- Title of the Poster
- A brief abstract of your poster (no longer than 150 words)
- An indication of whether you will be presenting a poster that you have already designed, or whether you will be designing a new poster.
- Please enter the following in the subject line of your email: EAHL 2009 POSTER ABSTRACT

Call for EAHL Members

Membership of the Association for 2009 is now open. Membership fees have not increased this year and we are again offering the reduced EJHL subscription fee for Full and Associate members. Members who have already paid for their EJHL subscription should receive the first issue in March. Members who sign up and pay for their subscription later in the year will receive all back issues for the year.

There are four types of membership:

- Full member (€45)
 - Associate member (€45)
 - Institutional member (€90)
 - Students (€20)
-
- EJHL Subscription (€60)

To become a member, please visit the EAHL website [<http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/eahl/signup.aspx>]

Links to Working Groups

Please follow these links to take you to the relevant Working Group webpage:

RESEARCH & NETWORKS

www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/eahl/research/

INSTITUTIONS

www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/eahl/institutions/

TEACHING & TRAINING

www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/eahl/teachingandtraining/

Working Groups: a call for members

Research and Networks

Through this network, the EAHL will encourage synergies among research centres interested in health law, and facilitate collaboration among researchers in Europe. This Working Group was set up at the inaugural conference in Edinburgh, where proposals were made for the aims of the network, recruitment of members, organization and initial topics to be discussed through the network. The EAHL will map health law research in Europe and create a searchable database including:

- Information on institutions involved in health law research in Europe, and details of cooperative research projects and programmes.
- A list of experts or resource persons with expertise in health law, which may be used by members, to select partners for future international cooperative research projects on Health Law.

In order to allow individuals and institutions to network among themselves according to their need, the EAHL is in the process of building up a searchable database on the basis of information provided by members and by other means. (For further information on EAHL interest groups please see page 4.)

To start this process off, we invite those who have proposals for discussion topics to contact Anne-Marie Duguet: aduguet@club-internet.fr

Institutions

European institutions have great impact on health law. Health law in Europe is also influenced by world based organisations (eg. UNESCO, WHO, OECD). The “Europeanization” of health law is an ongoing process with health law systems increasingly becoming more closely connected. There is a growing need to have the voice of health lawyers heard at the European level. European institutions are therefore a focal point of attention for the Association.

The Institutions Working Group was setup to maintain a watching brief on European and international institutions whose work has a direct impact on health law and policy in Europe and where input from the Association might have a significant role to play. The Board is now in the process of establishing close relationships with European institutions in order to:

- Cooperate closely in health law issues
- Announce EAHL activities through the channels of the European institutions.
- Allow the activities of European institutions to be available via the EAHL website

Information on progress made with this undertaking will be placed on the website. Important developments in international (European) health law will be regularly published in the EJHL. For further information please contact Herman Nys: Herman.Nys@med.kuleuven.be

Teaching and Training

The objective of this Working Group is the improvement of health law teaching and training across Europe, through exchanges of best practice and experience, cross-fertilisation of ideas and the maximisation of dissemination opportunities. A particular area of unmet need that emerged during EAHL 2008 was capacity building and training in Eastern European countries. In addition to developing a network of persons and centres interested in the teaching and training of health law, the EAHL will develop a members-only area of its website where members can share teaching materials, curricula, and examples of best practice.

As an initial face-to-face forum the EAHL will host a one-day programme on Teaching and Training of Health Law in Europe during the Summer European University on health law and bioethics, 1-10 July 2009, Toulouse, France. Please see page 5 for more information on this event.

To suggest contributions to this event and for further information on all aspects of this Working Group, please contact Graeme Laurie on Graeme.Laurie@ed.ac.uk

Association Interest Groups

The aim of EAHL Interest Groups is to provide EAHL members with an opportunity for on-going interaction with colleagues along thematic lines. The groups are designed to be fora for discussion, networking, and joint activities within health law. As such, EAHL Interest Groups aim to help build a shared knowledge base of actors, institutions, and research in health law in Europe.

EAHL Interest Groups are closely integrated into the EAHL structure, most notably into research seminars, thematic workshops and the biennial conferences. Activities of EAHL Interest Groups may range from virtual networking via e-mailing lists, online newsletters or discussion fora, via input to EAHL events such as conferences, and to the organization of thematic workshops and publications within the EAHL framework. New EAHL Interest Groups can be initiated by any EAHL member and are open for all members to join (for the procedure see here) Information on the administration of interest groups can be found online at <http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/ahrc/eahl/research/interestgroups/>

Currently, the following EAHL Interest Groups are under construction:

Interest Group on Research Governance

Contact: Graeme.Laurie@ed.ac.uk

Interest Group on Advance Directives

Contact: Herman.Nys@med.kuleuven.be

If you want to take part in one of these groups, please email the respective contact person.

Procedure for Forming an EAHL Interest Group

EAHL members interested in setting up an Interest Group should submit a written proposal to the Board of Directors stating the Group's purpose and justification, the types of activities it intends to engage in, the name of the proposed founding Chairperson or Chairpersons, and the names of a minimum of seven initial members (which may include the original proponent(s)) from at least two different countries. Once approved by the Board of Directors, the Interest Group comes formally into existence and will be listed on the EAHL website.

To facilitate the recruitment of seven founding members, EAHL members interested in setting up an Interest Group may request the EAHL secretariat to circulate a Solicitation for Expressions of Interest to all EAHL members prior to the submission of their setup request.

Administration of EAHL Interest Groups

Each Interest Group is administered by its Chairperson(s), whose responsibilities include the setting up and maintenance of the Interest Group's activities, the keeping of a register of Interest Group members, and the submission of biennial reports on the Interest Group's activities and membership to the Board of Directors.

Interest Group status is reviewed every two years by the Board of Directors which, at its discretion, may discontinue Groups with fewer than seven members, no activities, or conduct incompatible with the EAHL Constitution.

Financial Dimensions of EAHL Interest Groups

The general presumption is that those Interest Group activities that involve significant costs must be self-supporting, with EAHL being generally unable to directly fund any such activities. EAHL carries no financial responsibility for the activities of Interest Groups. EAHL may, however, provide such basic logistical support as is essential to the running of Interest Groups.

The Relationship between EAHL Interest Groups and the EAHL Governing Structure

Interest Groups are administered autonomously by their Chairpersons, officers and members, in accordance with the EAHL Constitution and the relevant EAHL rules, and subject to supervision by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will appoint one or more of its members as an Interest Group contact person. Interest Groups are expected to actively take part in general EAHL activities, and to act as integral elements of EAHL.

Call for National Contacts

The EAHL is looking for representatives to act as national contacts for the Association. Please send any nominations to Simone.Hull@ed.ac.uk.

Announcements and Events

Call for Contributions

The EAHL will be hosting a Teaching and Training day at the Summer European University.

Please contact Graeme Laurie (Graeme.Laurie@ed.ac.uk) with suggested themes or proposals for presentations for this day event by 1st April 2009.

The EAHL is involved as a partner in the organisation of the **Summer European University on health Law and Bioethics (July, 1st to 10th 2009)**

The scientific programme is currently under construction and EAHL members willing to submit proposals for oral presentations are invited to contact Anne-Marie Duguet aduguet@club-internet.fr. The Scientific Committee will select oral or poster presentations. EAHL members will have a reduced registration.

Health law centres are invited to disseminate this announcement. PhD students, members of the EAHL network will have a free registration to the *Young researchers FORUM*.

The programme of the Summer European University includes the following: (website: www.arfdm.asso.fr)

YOUNG RESEARCHERS FORUM July 1st, 2009 Toulouse (France)

Researchers under 35 are invited to make an oral or poster presentation on the topics of the Summer University, or on their personal researches. A 500 euros prize will be awarded for the best presentation. The texts will be published in a book by *Les Études Hospitalières* (www.etudes-hospitalieres.fr). For information please contact: presidente@arfdm.asso.fr

SEMINAR July 2nd to 4th, 2009 Toulouse

Public health Law issues in a transnational context

Languages: French / English Bilingual documentation. Simultaneous translation
Seminar: Students: 100 euros to register to the scientific program on July 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 5 nights in students residence, 3 working meals, and tour on Saturday.
Professionals: 200 euros. Special registration fees or invitations are offered to students coming from university partners and to EAHL members. Registration deadline: May 31st, 2009 Contact: lableg@cict.fr

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME July 6th to 10th, 2009 Toulouse

Introduction to Health Law and Bioethics in Europe

For students or professionals. Languages: English/ French. Academic programme: 90 euros for 5 additional nights and lunches in student residence for students attending the Seminar and the FORUM. Registration fee and housing for the academic programme only: 120 euros

PARALLEL SESSION IN NAMUR (Belgium) July 6th to 8th, 2009

Technology and health: law and ethics

Languages English/ French
For programme and registration fees, please contact Jean Herveg: jean.herveg@fundp.ac.be

Announcements page

If you are holding any events or activities that may be of interest to members of the EAHL and would like us to advertise them in our newsletter, please send the information to Simone.Hull@ed.ac.uk.

Contact us

All enquiries regarding the EAHL should, in the first instance, be addressed to the Executive Director.

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Web: www.law.ed.ac.uk/arhc/eahl

Membership Reminder

Admission for 2009 membership to the EAHL is open. Please go to the website <http://www.law.ed.ac.uk/arhc/eahl/signup.aspx> to join.

EAHL Logo Competition

The EAHL is holding an open competition to design a logo to be used on all media produced by the Association. To enter this competition, please send an A4 poster in either electronic or paper format to the EAHL Executive Director, AHRC/SCRIPT, School of Law, University of Edinburgh, Old College, Edinburgh, EH8 9YL, UK, or email to Simone.Hull@ed.ac.uk, by 1st September 2009. Entries will be judged at the EAHL Conference 2009 and a prize will be awarded to the winner.

NB. Paper posters should be clear enough to scan. Electronic posters should be saved as a picture file. Please do not send .PDFs.

Call for Photos

The EAHL is always looking for members to send in photos of their European cities to be used on the Association website. If you have any photos of your city that you are happy to be displayed on the website, please do send them to the Executive Director (Simone.Hull@ed.ac.uk)

They are most appreciated!



Amsterdam



Leuven



Toulouse