

The theme for this year is a continuation of the one on integration of physical and mental health from last year, with a specific focus on the relationship of mental health with chronic physical illnesses.

On the occasion of the World Mental Health Day, the World Health Organisation is launching its Mental Health Gap Intervention Guide (mhGAP-IG) this year on 7th of October, which will be the inception of the implementation phase as well.

*To know more about this initiative, please see*

[http://www.wfmh.org/2010world\\_mental\\_health\\_day.htm](http://www.wfmh.org/2010world_mental_health_day.htm)

### **Honorary Doctorate for Peter Lehmann - European Network of (ex)-Users and Survivors of Psychiatry**

In acknowledgment of his "exceptional scientific and humanitarian contribution to the rights of the people with psychiatric experience," the School of Psychology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, decided unanimously to award Mr. Peter Lehmann with the Honorary Doctoral Degree. The ceremony will take place on 28th September 2010 at the Aristotle University. During the afternoon the international congress "Determining our own future: the way forward for all European users and survivors of psychiatry" will take place. The event is commonly organised by the European Network of (ex)-Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (ENUSP), Mental Health Europe, The Pan-Hellenic Committee of (ex-) Users and Survivors of Psychiatry and The School of Psychology and the Self-Help Promotion Programme of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Peter Lehmann is the first survivor of psychiatry anywhere in the world to be honoured with an Honorary Doctoral Degree for pioneering achievements within the realm of humanistic antipsychiatry.

MHE congratulates Mr. Lehmann for this acknowledgment.

*For more information about the conference, please see* <http://www.enusp.org/events>

### **British Sociological Association's annual conference 2011: Call for expression of interest**

The British Sociological Association (BSA) is holding its 2011 annual conference "60 Years of Sociology" at the London School of Economics, from 6-8 April 2011. The conference will explore the past, consider the present and assess the challenges of the future for sociological research in an ever-changing social landscape.

The British Sociological Association Sociology of Mental Health Study Group is looking for anyone interested in presenting papers on the mental health benefits or 'therapeutic' effects of education; emancipatory knowledge and mental health; or adult education, social inequalities and mental health.

If interested in contributing, please contact Lydia Lewis with a brief outline of your proposed presentation (up to 200 words) by 7th October 2010 at [lydia2lewis@hotmail.com](mailto:lydia2lewis@hotmail.com)

The School of Community Health Sciences, Division of Psychiatry, University of Nottingham, is organising a symposium for the British Sociological Association's annual conference 2011. The theme of the proposed symposium is "The Interface between Social Science and Mental Health Practice".

If interested in contributing, please contact Dr Hugh Middleton with details of your proposed presentation at [hugh.middleton@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:hugh.middleton@nottingham.ac.uk) by 7th October 2010.

*For more information on the British Sociological Association (BSA)'s annual conference, please see* <http://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/conference/abs.htm>

*Information on the BSA Study Group on Sociology of Mental Health can be found at* <http://www.britsoc.co.uk/medsoc/MedSocMentalHealth.htm>



**MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE**



**MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE**

Boulevard Clovis 7, B-1000 Brussels

Tel + 32 2 280 04 68

Fax + 32 2 280 16 04

Email: [info@mhe-sme.org](mailto:info@mhe-sme.org)

Web site: <http://www.mhe-sme.org>

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Only 3 weeks to go before our October events...

The capacity-building seminar for MHE members on 21 October is fully booked. Only up to 2 additional registrations can be accepted.

In the late afternoon of the same day, we will hold our annual General Assembly. MHE members should all have received an invitation and the agenda by now. If not, please contact us urgently ([mvandievel@mhe-sme.org](mailto:mvandievel@mhe-sme.org)).

The programme and registration form for the MHE conference 2010 on "Challenging Poverty – Creating Hope. Breaking the cycle of poverty and mental health problems" (22-23 October) are available on line (<http://www.mhe-sme.org/conference2010.html>). If you have not registered yet, please do so urgently.

The keynote speech will be delivered by a prominent speaker from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Mr Christopher Prinz. The report on MHE's survey on poverty and mental health problems will be presented by MHE Vice-President Rita Donabauer.

Nearly 40 good practices will be shared with the participants during the 8 parallel sessions. Make sure to be there too!

And last but not least: at the end of the first conference day (22 October) we will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of Mental Health Europe. José Van Remoortel will present the MHE history in a nutshell, and pay a tribute to 3 dear friends and colleagues who played an important role but sadly passed away: Edith Morgan, Knud Jensen and John Henderson.

This will be followed by a Round Table debate about the future of mental health in Europe. This theme is particularly relevant in the frame of the EU Pact on Mental Health and Well-being, and the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in which we would like to see a more "social" component.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mary Van Dievel, director.