AEP News

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Letter from the President

Dear AEP member,

During the 6th AEP Congress in Barcelona in November 1992 I was elected as President of the AEP with the major task of organizing the 7th AEP Congress in Copenhagen (Denmark), 18–22 September 1994. The title of the forthcoming congress is "European Psychiatry: East and West." I hereby wish to inform you about the status of the congress and the activities of the Association.

1. European Congress of Psychiatry, 7th AEP Congress Copenhagen 1994

The First Announcement of the AEP Congress in Copenhagen was distributed to the AEP members and some thousand psychiatrists in Europe and abroad in March/April 1993. The Second Announcement with a call for abstracts was released to even more psychiatrists in September 1993. The deadline for abstracts was mentioned as the 15 December, 1993. However, during a recent meeting with the Committee of the AEP it was decided to extend the deadline for abstracts to January 15, 1994. The Third Announcement of our congress will be released around May, 1994.

For further information about the congress, additional abstract forms or announcements please contact:

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The Congress will comprise around 50 symposia covering social, clinical, and biological psychiatry, plenary lectures, poster presentations, satellite symposia, and hospital visits.

2. ICD-10 Postgraduate Training Course

ICD-10 is, to a large extent, European and we can offer you a 4-day training course of this classi-

fication system during the AEP Copenhagen Congress.

3. Collaboration with the WHO, World Health Organization

The 1994 AEP Copenhagen Congress will be arranged in collaboration with the World Health Organization, with both the Headquarters in Geneva and the Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen. Norman Sartorius, Geneva, and José Faria, Copenhagen, have taken an active part in the planning process. Thus, Professor Sartorius has, in collaboration with Dr Aksel Bertelsen, Denmark, developed a Postgraduate Training Course in the use of ICD-10 during the AEP Congress in Copenhagen. Dr Faria is arranging a symposium for East European psychiatrists to take place in the WHO office for Europe in Copenhagen the day before the AEP Congress starts.

4. AEP Journal European Psychiatry

The AEP Congress 1994 in Copenhagen has included a very broad range of issues of the AEP activities. Thus, for the first time in the history of the Association, the Abstract Book of the Congress will be published as an issue of AEP's own journal, *European Psychiatry*. This journal, of which you receive 6 issues/year as a vital part of your membership has gone through a very positive development period during the last years thanks to our deputy editors, Yves Lecrubier and Patrice Boyer. Due to this development and the successful AEP Congress in Barcelona in 1992 with around 1500 participants, a Spanish edition of our journal is under consideration.

In the years to come, *European Psychiatry* will endeavour not only to publish high level scientific papers and communications, but also editorials, letters to the editor, AEP newsletters, book reviews, information about new regulations in Europe and information about the contents of other European journals will be considered. Your possible suggestions, contributions and co-operation in this development will be highly appreciated.

5. AEP Synthélabo Award to young psychiatrists

In January 1993 Synthélabo Recherche (LERS) offered to sponsor AEP grants within the field of neuropsychiatry. The topics for these grants cover biological psychiatry and psychopathology and may be applied for by young psychiatrists working in this field. The grants fit very well into the objectives of AEP, namely to promote research, education, and standardization of treatment in Europe.

The members of the AEP Synthélabo Grant Committee are Ballús, Bech, Beyaert, Fahy, Mann, Pull and Singer. At a meeting in Paris in July 1993 the two award winners 1993/94 were selected from eight candidates. They are Dr J Jalenques-Tauveron, Centre Hospitalier Regional et Universitaire, Clermond-Ferrand (France) (Grafting genetically modified neurones to aging brain: Restorative effects of NGF) and Dr L Rizzo, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Strasbourg (France) (Schizophrenia and memory: Evaluation of the space-time context). The prizes will be officially awarded during the AEP Congress in Copenhagen, September 1994.

6. AEP Sections

Between the biennial congresses a number of AEP section symposia are held. In total, eight AEP sections are operating: (1) Alcoholism and drug addiction, (2) Classification and diagnosis, (3) Clinical psychiatry, (4) Geronto-psychiatry, (5) Forensic psychiatry, (6) Epidemiology and Social psychiatry, (7) Psychopathology, and (8) Psychopharmacology (see News from the secretariat).

7. Development of AEP from 1984 to 1994

Professor Singer, Strasbourg, and Professor Pull, Luxembourg, may be regarded as the "grey eminences" behind AEP. During the 10 years of AEP history they have both been very active, Singer as AEP President (and now as section adviser) and Pull as Secretary General. Recently, they have published a booklet covering the most important events and facts about AEP. This booklet which has been mailed to all AEP members contains, *inter alia*, the calendar of AEP meetings in 1994.

The first AEP Congress took place in Strasbourg in 1984, covering mostly French and German psychiatry. So many mental disorders are linked to names such as Pinel, Esquirol, Charcot, and Janet on the one hand and Westphal, Alzheimer, Kraepelin, Schneider, Kretschmer, Bonhoeffer, and Leonhardt on the other hand.

In 1994, the year of the 10th Anniversary of AEP, after developing into a truly European Association and after five years of political changes in Europe, the Congress will cover psychiatry in Eastern and Western Europe. We hope that all parts of Europe will be duly represented.

8. General meeting of members

The next General Meeting of the AEP membership will take place during the Copenhagen Congress, on September 20, 1994.

The venue in Copenhagen, the Tivoli Gardens, and the AEP welcome you in a still summerly and warm atmosphere. I look forward to seeing you in 1994.

> Professor Per Bech, MD President of AEP