

EACS, European Academy of Caring Science

Academic meeting 24 October, 2011 at the University of West England

Glenside Campus

Participants: Clara Aarts, Ulrika Hörberg, Margaretha Ekebergh, Ingegerd Fagerberg, John Albarran, Shirley Bach, Elisabeth Russer, Les Todres, Kate Galvin, Ann Hemingway, Stuart Mc Clean and Sepideh Olausson

Apologies: Lisbeth Urenfeld Aarhus University, Birgitta Edlund and Pranee Lundgren, Uppsala University, Liselott Ozolins, Linnaeus University, Annie Chellel, University of Brighton and Karin Dahlberg,

Agenda:

Apologies and Welcome, ME

Prof. Margaretha Ekebergh welcomes the participants and forwards EACS's appreciation to University of West England and Dr. John Albarran for hosting the meeting. She invites the participants to have a short presentation.

Dr. Stuart Mcclean from UWE is joining the group and replacing Jane Powell and PhD students from University of Borås will participate in coming meetings.

Prof. Ingegerd Fagerbergh from University of Ersta Sköndal is here to network and becoming affiliated member in EACS.

Updating contact sheet and information about the web page, ME

Margaretha Ekebergh will update the member list and forward it to the group.

Clara Aarts, who is responsible for the web page, asks the group members to send their contributions from the EACS conference in Borås to her for publishing on the web page. The open access is not a problem for publishing abstracts on the web page. Clara also reminds the group members to send in their CV for publishing on the web page. Dr. John Albarran suggests some modifications on the web page e.g. modifying the heading "Documentation" and create several sub-headings. Link the EACS address in your email in order to raise interest. For example: Member of the European Academy of Caring Science <http://www2.pubcare.uu.se/care/eacs/>

Another way of informing the members is perhaps using generic emails? Do we want to have a discussion board on the home page? Are the group interested in having a discussion board on the web page?

Discussion regarding the publication of minutes from academic meetings:

Should minutes from both academic and business meetings be published on the web page? EACS is founded by the public and the participating Universities and therefore it is important to document and publish the work carried out together with minutes from the Academic meetings on EACS' web page.

One question about the agenda was raised:

- Are agendas valuable to publish? It was suggested that the agendas should be published to show the progress of the academic activities and the work done.

Suggestions how to make EACS more known:

- Arrange physical areas in our universities where posters and presentations can be shown.

- NCCS has shown interest in cooperating with EACS (Åshild Slättebo, Dag Finnåden, and Erna Lassenius). EACS will send an invitation to the board of NCCS for the next conference. EACS members will also try to participate in future NCCS conferences. The next conference is in Oslo, March 2012.

European Heritage - paper

Prof. Kate Galvin provides a background on the paper "EACS – European heritage"

- ✓ How can it be described in themes within EACS?
- ✓ Debating the whole issue of having a broad approach; "profession neutrality" trans-professional
- ✓ Cultural and educational heritage – Continental philosophy

Challenges: Position us "who are we" in the moment? Different preparation, education cross Europe is very diverse. What is Europe? Why starting in Europe? How can we be open to invite people to help us answer the questions raised in this field? We are different from North American tradition because we are grounded in continental philosophy. We need to be clear with the differences but at the same time being open. No geographical boundaries.

Give direction on the web page to read the European heritage text. Clara will link the paper to the web page and add some good references about the Scandinavian work. The text on the web page could be: "Welcoming other European and others to EACS".

The Themes development – Time for discussion within each theme

Report from each theme:

Transcultural theme: The theme has worked with the paper to be published in the special issue of QHW. The paper is now revised but there is still some work left before it can be sent to the editor Karin Dahlberg. The agreements in the themes:

- Transcultural theme: Looking at the future and various opportunities to engage other communities. Pranee Lundgren and Lisbeth Uhrenfelt and Stuart Mc Clean will contribute to

the group. Working with the threads holding the theme together. Working with individuals and humanisation care and better understanding of human and individuals. What's been done and where are we going? Future plans are discussed.

- Public health theme: The theme members have discussed how themes are connected to each other. There are series of papers addressing a life world perspective. The theme members are also planning to apply for funding for mutual work, joint publications and for a mutual PhD student between Uppsala University and the University of Brighton. Testing how philosophies are relevant for people's work in the community. Life world and political activities have been addressed.
- Life world led care: The theme members have discussed various projects and work in progress at each university. The theme is interested in building a network in the spirit of EACS and life world led education. The theme will apply for grants for funding of the network. The aim of the network is to work with a web based platform (web based database; blended learning using film, poems, patient interviews, bring them together) for facilitating a holistic approach to teaching and research both for the students and for the purpose of research (meta-synthesis). Three countries are involved: Sweden, England and Australia. There are two or three funding bodies that might be interested in funding networks.

Academic debate

Discussion about funding:

Until next meeting each member of the group should try to find out what funds are available.

Decision:

Bring the information to the next meeting in May 2012.

Discussion about the European Heritage paper:

This document serves as; what is distinctive about the European academy compared to other academies? Is this our mission or a complement overlapping what we already have stated in our web-page?

Decision:

New heading: "What is the European Academy of Caring Science". Clara will publish the text on the web page. She needs the references which will be provided by Kate.

Prof. Les Todres suggests that it would be very valuable if someone from Scandinavia could provide EACS with the history of developing caring science in Scandinavia. It should be a text that can be published. This can also be used as a rationale for why EACS exists. Articulate in what way our point of departure is different from the American standpoint. Caring Science includes other professions besides nursing and it is essential to debate this. Then the text can also be published on the web

page for the professionals. Prof. Les Todres points out we must build upon an academic foundation that can be used in the secularized society.

Decision:

The Scandinavian members will try to produce a text about the history of Caring science from a Nordic perspective.

Upcoming conference:

The conference “Nordic Interdisciplinary Conference on Qualitative Methods in the service of Health” will be carried out at the University of Ersta Sköndal in Stockholm 13-15 of May 2012. Please see the flyers or www.esk.se/institutioner/varvetenskap/qmsh12html .

Suggestions in relation to this conference:

- ✓ A poster presentation about EACS and
- ✓ Encourage doctoral students to present something at the conference.
- ✓ Leaflet and flyers about EACS can also be provided and spread to the to raise interest
- ✓ John suggested that we could collect some data by preparing questions in the end of the flyers and collected it. Boxes will be provided, in which the participants can place their answers. The new research secretary/clerk in Borås will be responsible for this.

Next EACS meeting:

The next meeting will be in junction with the above mentioned conference in Stockholm. **The business meeting will be on Tuesday 15th May, 2012 in the afternoon after the closing session of the conference and the academic meeting on Wednesday morning the 16th May, 2012. The meetings will be at the University of Ersta Sköndal.**

The main subjects on the agenda will be:

- Funding
- A discussion based in the paper of the history of caring science.

The EACS meeting in spring 2013 will take place in Aarhus, Denmark. A mini conference is also planned in junction with this meeting. Prof. Todres suggests that the theme of conference should be “Next generation in caring science” in purpose of handing over and keeping the discussion alive. A conversation between seniors and PhD students should be a fruitful session on this conference. Prof. Margaretha Ekebergh will be in touch with Lisbeth Urehenfeldt for confirming the plans. If University of Aarhus is not hosting the meeting and the conference then Uppsala University will arrange it.

Publications:

Please see theme discussion above. The themes/EACS are going to have new discussions about publications in six months times. A core document about the history of caring Science is suggested.

The special issue of QHW with EACS contributions in a final stage

New themes? - Is EACS ready for extending? ME

- ✓ Not yet.

Future strategy and aim- a long-term planning, AL

- ✓ EACS is open and accept affiliate members.