



May 2010



▶ **Expanding Mental Health Awareness - the birth of Mental Health Association – Gozo**

▶ **Ireland's See Change programme launched**

▶ **Victory for the Recovery Movement – medical book prize**

▶ **Parenthood and Mental Health: a bridge between infant and adult psychiatry – a new book from the WPA**

▶ **The Brain Prize - Major new award for European neuroscience**

▶ **AGM of the European Patients' Forum (EPF)**

▶ **EUFAMI Board Meeting**

For more information, please look at the web site www.eufami.org or contact EUFAMI at info@eufami.org

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Expanding Mental Health Awareness - the birth of Mental Health Association – Gozo

The Mental Health Association in Malta which is an active NGO in Malta and also affiliated with EUFAMI, has branched-out by establishing another association in the smaller sister island of Gozo.

Gozo is a very tranquil island, unspoilt and thriving with natural beauty. The population is approximately 30,000 and traditional values can still be experienced. It is the first time an association of this type has ever existed in Gozo and it was much needed.

The inauguration of the Mental Health Association-Gozo took place on 28th April 28, when over 200 people attended. The speakers included Giovanna Debono, Minister for Gozo, Connie Magro (co-founder of MHA Malta and vice president of EUFAMI), Mr Godfrey Borg and Ms Lisa Mizzi (both were speakers at the recent *Forgotten Children* conference in Vilnius, last November) and Inger Nilsson (past president of EUFAMI).

Ireland's See Change programme launched

See Change is Ireland's new national partnership to reduce stigma and challenge discrimination associated with mental health problems. It is an alliance of organisations working together through the National Stigma Reduction Partnership to bring about positive change in public attitudes and behaviour towards people with mental health problems. The lead organisation is Shine, EUFAMI's Irish member and the website is www.seechange.ie.

Victory for the Recovery Movement – medical book prize

While working on the night shift on the 27th April, Professor Michaela Amering, professor of psychiatry at the University of Vienna and a long time supporter of EUFAMI, received the news that the book which she co wrote with Margit Schmolke, psycho-analyst from Munich 'Recovery - the End of Incurability' had won the highly esteemed Open Book Award for professional books, which is organised by the Organisation of Medical Journalists in London.

The book was originally published in 2007 by "Bonner Psychiatrie Verlag" and is about today's change in paradigms in psychiatry and the international consequences for the views on schizophrenia and other mental disorders. In 2008 the book was translated into English by Peter Stastny and released to the English speaking market by Wiley-Blackwell, New York. Professor Amering celebrated this award during her nightshift with a glass of water, while in London, in the library of the Wellcome Trust, the award celebration party was taking place. Recovery is also a publication of WPA and Amering is secretary of the section 'Public Policy and Psychiatry'.

Parenthood and Mental Health: a bridge between infant and adult psychiatry – a new book from the WPA

This book focuses on pregnancy and the first year of life, providing a thorough account of the points of encounter between adult and infant psychiatry. In a fresh and comprehensive way, it summarises knowledge about early parenting, including a critical analysis of parenting, what it means to be a "good enough parent", and its relationship to infant, parent and family outcomes. In addition to the psychiatric dimension, the book emphasises the biological aspects of parenting, parental psychopathology and normal and abnormal infant development. More details may be found at <http://eu.wiley.com>. The book is edited by Sam Tyano, Miri Keren, Helen Herrman and John Cox.

The Brain Prize - Major new award for European neuroscience

Grete Lundbeck European Brain Research Prize - THE BRAIN PRIZE - is awarded by Grete Lundbeck European Brain Research Foundation, a charitable, non-profit organization founded by the Lundbeck Foundation. The Prize and the Foundation are both named after Grete Lundbeck, visionary founder of the Lundbeck Foundation.

The Prize will recognize a highly original and influential advance in brain research. If several researchers have contributed significantly to this achievement, more than one individual may be nominated. Nominees can be of any nationality but the research for which they are nominated must have been conducted in Europe or in collaboration with researchers in Europe. This Prize is intended to raise the visibility of European neuroscience and to be a stimulus to this important field of research. More details can be found at http://www.thebrainprize.org/flx/the_brain_prize/

AGM of the European Patients' Forum (EPF)

The annual general meeting of EPF took place recently in Brussels on the 19th May. EUFAMI is a member of the EPF and it was represented at the meeting by Inger Nilsson, past president of EUFAMI. The meeting took place in conjunction with the EPF Health Technology Assessment Seminar which took place on the 18th May.

EUFAMI Board Meeting

Delegates will be arriving into Leuven in the next few days to attend the annual Board meeting of EUFAMI which will take place on the 28th and 29th May. We extend a warm welcome to all our directors and guests.