

Report from EFAD 29th General Meeting

20 full member associations attended the business meeting, which elected Annemieke van Ginkel-Res as the Honorary President 2018-2022, Grigoris Risvas as Honorary Vice President 2018 – 2020 and Pauline Douglas as Honorary Treasurer 2019-2023. Daniel Buchholz and Sissi Stove Lorentzen were each elected as Executive Committee members 2018-2022

Members were informed that EFAD had been accredited as an official non-state Actor by the WHO Europe region – meaning that EFAD can now contribute to the Regional Committee meetings of Health Ministers from 53 WHO region member states.

The revised Academic Standards were adopted, as was the revised Mission & Vision paper of the Professional Practice committee.

Delegates joined a workshop on “policy and lobbying” which concluded that dietitians should be promoting health by ensuring that food and nutrition is accessible, affordable, attractive and sustainable in the EU during the lifelong path and by showing the added value of dietitians. To do this an advocacy task force will define concrete policy objectives.

Representatives from 22 Education Associate members, along with affiliate members and ESDN leads joined the afternoon session of the General Meeting.

Judith Liddell, Executive Director, presented highlights of EFADs year, including accomplishments of each of the standing committees, the European Specialist Dietetic Networks and the students network (ENDietS).

Delegates joined workshops on voluntary registration and embedding evidence-based practice, while separate meetings for ESDN leads and Education Associate members took place. EFAD also hosted a meeting of other Health Professionals which was attended by:

- Standing Liaison Committee of E.U. Speech and Language Therapists and Logopedists
- Council of Occupational Therapists for European Countries
- European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy / Physiotherapy
- The European Federation of Radiographer Societies
- International Federation of Podiatrists

It is planned to work together with all of these professions to effectively promote the work of each.

Delegates then attended the 40th Anniversary Party where awards were given to honorary members, both old and new. The 11th EFAD conference followed, where the first EFAD Dietetic Fellow award was given. The conference, with 450 delegates and 22 exhibitors, was the largest and most successful to date.

Judith Liddell

EFAD Executive Director