

# EASOM

European Association  
of Schools of Occupational Medicine

## BULLETIN – TWENTY’S EDITION

**JUNE 2018**

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More Information about EASOM: <https://www.easom.eu/>

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## **SHORT REPORT ON 17<sup>th</sup> EASOM SUMMER SCHOOL** ***“Managing & Teaching Ergonomics”*** **Miskolc-Tapolca, Hungary, 23 - 26 of August, 2017**

**Sára Felszeghi**

The topic of the 17<sup>th</sup> EASOM Summer School organized in Miskolc-Tapolca between 23 and 26 of August 2017 was “Managing & Teaching Ergonomics”. The local organizers and cooperating partners were the Center for Healthcare and Methodology of the University of Miskolc, the Hungarian Association of Occupational Medicine, the Hungarian Society of Ergonomics and Miskolc Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Science.

The summer school activity was highly appreciated by National and local stakeholders, such as the secretary of state for Higher Education Zita Horváth, the chancellor of the University of Miskolc, Csaba Deák, and vice-rector for international and scientific affairs of the University of Miskolc, Tamás Kékesi who have offered welcoming addresses to the participants.

The recognition of the importance of the summer school concluded in a half an hour broadcasting on the National TV channel ECHO TV, where the interviews with EASOM president prof. Giso Schmeisser, invited lecturer prof. Helmut Krueger, and the local organizers, represented by Dr. Sára Felszeghi were presented, as well as moments of the opening ceremony and the first plenary lectures.

The venue of the summer school was in Miskolc-Tapolca, a small spa next to the campus of the University of Miskolc. The EASOM Board started its activity in the afternoon of the preliminary day and all the participants met in a get-together evening.

The first day key lectures in the morning program focused on bringing actual information to encounter a „Multidisciplinary approach to ergonomic risks in the workplace” and identify the “Health effects of ergonomic risk and their prevention”. In practice, many times occupational practitioners need to identify the „Assessment methods of ergonomic risks” which have been presented by the president of the Hungarian Society of Ergonomics. In the first day afternoon program were presented aspects of „Ergonomic risks in case of young workforce/computer workplace”, and “Stakeholders’ roles in adapting workplaces for ergonomics risks - European examples from the agriculture sector in the AGROSH+ project”.

In the afternoon the participants visited the Selmec Memorial Library of the University of Miskolc, where the participants have seen - besides a range of scientific books in the

specialties of this first mining and metallurgy institute of the world, the famous *De Re Metallica of Agricola*, - important volumes not only in the History of Mining, but also the volumes where the first elements of occupational medicine are exposed.

Another interesting place visited by the participants was the Pannon Sea exhibition of the Herman Ottó Museum, which enables viewing such relics of paleontological history as the silicified tree trunks of Ipolytarnóc, which are unique not only in terms of Miskolc and Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén county but in the world as well. After having made an excursion in history and paleontology the participants made a guided tour of the city and have been offered a dinner in Palace Hotel Lillafüred.

The second day morning program was centered on practical issues on “Prevention of ergonomic risks of back pain injuries”, “Ergonomic risks in the case of ageing workforce” and the lecture “Musculoskeletal diseases and rehabilitation duties in case of ergonomic injuries” followed by the presentation of experiences of practical Rehabilitation activities at the local Szent Ferencz Hospital. The afternoon program included as well “Teaching ergonomics - National experiences – second part” and a Workshop to discuss the Learning Objectives on Ergonomics for occupational physicians and other physicians, resp. arguments on the subject for HR managers and employers. By the end of the afternoon the participants have been offered the possibility to experience some of the Rehabilitation methods of Musculoskeletal Disorders in Miskolc-Tapolca Thermal Cave-Bath during a visit made in the famous balneal therapeutically unit. Then a conference dinner followed in the conference hotel Calimbra, the main venue of the summer school.

Saturday morning session was dedicated to other national experiences in teaching and managing workability: “New issues in teaching ergonomics in occupational medicine” and “Ergonomic risks in particular situations: sitting and standing workplaces”.

Three workshops were organized in parallel, to evaluate and then establish common aspects of ergonomics in three case studies. As a closing session of the meeting, conclusions and summing up of the three days program were presented.

For some of the participants who decided to remain in Miskolc in the afternoon, and experience more of the city, a free program has been offered to visit the Castle of Diósgyőr, and have a common dinner at Rákóczi Cellars with the organizers.

## AGROSH+ Project

Theodor Hărățău, Elena-Ana Păuncu

**AGROSH+ “OSH+ for the European Agriculture sector - Stimulating growth in rural areas through capacity building for providers (and beneficiaries) of occupational medicine and OSH services”**

### DURATION

September 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 to August 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 (24 months)

### FUNDING

Funded by the ERASMUS+ Programme of the European Union, 2016 Call, through the National Agency for Community Programs in the Field of Education and Training.

### PARTNERSHIP

#### The Project Coordinator

- ✦ **Romtens Foundation**, Romania, Bucharest <http://www.romtens.ro/>

#### Partners:

- ✦ **PROLEPSIS** - Institute of Preventive Medicine Environmental and Occupational Health from Greece, Athens <http://www.prolepis.gr>
- ✦ **FCBZR** - Foundation "Center for Safety and Health at Work" from Bulgaria, Sofia <http://fcbzr.org/>
- ✦ **UMFVBT** - Victor Babeş University of Medicine and Pharmacy Timisoara from Romania, Timisoara <http://www.umft.ro/>
- ✦ **WRC** - Work Research Centre Ireland Ltd from Ireland, Dublin <http://www.wrc-research.ie>

### CONTEXT

The project is addressing the domains of Occupational Safety and Health and Occupational Medicine by particularizing them to the sector of agriculture.

According to 2012 data of EUROSTAT/ESAW for EU-28, agriculture occupies the 4th place (out of 22 NACE categories analysed) in terms of number of both **non-fatal and fatal accidents**. In the same time statistics for occupational diseases are showing a fairly similar situation, agriculture is the 4th sector responsible for producing work-related sick leaves in EU-28 (EUROSTAT/ESAW).

In terms of training courses, in all 4 countries represented in the project, there aren't available on the market training courses specifically crafted for OSH experts and occupational physicians providing their services to the agriculture sector. Currently in each country the offer of OSH training courses consists only of general OSH courses for safety experts and only of information sessions (tackling agriculture specific issues) for occupational physicians.

Therefore the AGROSH+ project will fill the need of specific knowledge articulated as training materials for those OSH experts and occupational physicians providing services to the agriculture sector, and it will do it by gathering, adapting and adjusting transnational expertise.

## OBJECTIVES

The **general objective** of the project is to enhance the knowledge and expertise of those OSH experts (safety engineers and occupational physicians) who are in charge with providing OSH services (occupational safety & occupational medicine services) to enterprises working within the agriculture sector (multiple sub-sectors comprised).

### Specific objectives:

- ❖ To assess the Training Needs of specialists (safety experts & occupational physicians) providing OSH services & Occupational medicine services to the agriculture sector;
- ❖ To enhance the level of expertise (increasing their knowledge, skills, and attitude) for a number of 57 specialists (27 OSH experts & 30 Occ. Med. physicians);
- ❖ To increase the level of information for a community of 100 OSH experts & Occupational and physicians (but also other interested parties) active in the agriculture sector;
- ❖ To enhance partners' institutional capacity (in terms of training in the fields of OSH & Occ. Med.) so as to further impact VET and education systems in accommodating changes of their curricula and contents related to the envisaged fields.

## ACTIVITIES

In order to achieve the general and specific objectives, the project had foreseen the following main activities:

### Learning, teaching and training activities (face-to-face & e-learning):

- ❖ 1st Joint Staff Training - training course for testing the paraphernalia (curriculum, materials, case studies, other instruments) for the Course dedicated to OSH experts (13 participants);
- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Staff Training- training course for testing the paraphernalia (curriculum, materials, case studies, other instruments) for the Course dedicated to occupational physicians (14 participants);
- ❖ Course 1, OSH for Agriculture – Blended course with both face-to-face and e-learning sessions ,27 OSH experts;
- ❖ Course 2, Occupational Medicine for Agriculture - Blended course with both face-to-face and e-learning sessions, 30 occupational physicians.

The trainees will receive accreditations depending on their status such as UEMS-EACCME - Continuous Medical Education (CME) credits, EUROPASS Mobility Certificates and/or Certificate from National Authority for Qualifications.

### Multiplier events

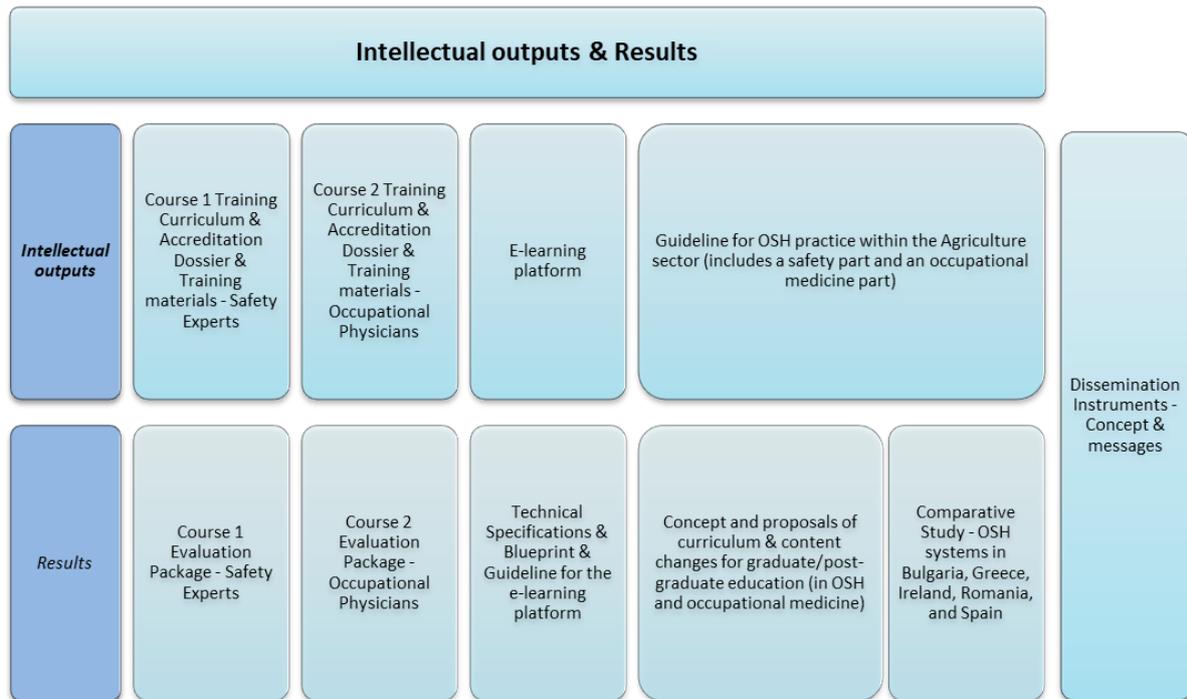
In each country (participant in the project) there will be organized an event in order to disseminate the results of the project with the participation of 20 experts from OSH and Occupational Medicine community.

### Transnational meeting

The project foresees 5 Transnational Meeting, one in every country (participant in the project).



Funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union





## 18<sup>th</sup> EASOM Summer School, Zagreb, Croatia, 23-25 of August 2018

### Marija Bubas

“Concepts of Educational Efficiency, Effectiveness and Quality - how to design, conduct and evaluate a good quality educational seminar in occupational health and safety” closely relates to the role of EASOM to promote the highest standards of education and training in occupational medicine in Europe through the exchange of knowledge, skills and experience in education and training. The Summer School is organized under the auspices of Croatian Institute for Health Protection and Safety at Work in close collaboration with School of Public Health “Andrija Štampar”, University of Zagreb and WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health.

We chose the **example of agriculture** as a high risk economy branch, employing not only permanent workers but also seasonal workers among these many migrants. At this moment farmers and other agricultural workers predominantly do not have access to occupational health services. This situation is often encountered across Europe. On the other hand, occupational health and medicine specialists lack skills in organizing and evaluating educational seminars while at the same time (associations of) employers and health insurance funds ask them to provide education to a certain target group of workers on various topics aimed to preservation of health at work. Here, in terms of agricultural health and safety we find that farm-owners, farm workers and doctors (e.g. family medicine doctors, pulmonologists, dermatologists, public health specialists) and nurses (in primary and occupational health care) are the main three target groups that need to receive additional education.



Since this education is often provided by occupational medicine doctors, we intended to include in this summer school a group of eight residents in occupational medicine (specializing in Croatia) to be a sort of a core group which will learn new skills and knowledge and use them in their future work.



The summer school venue: School of Public Health “Andrija Štampar”, Rockefellerova 4, Zagreb.

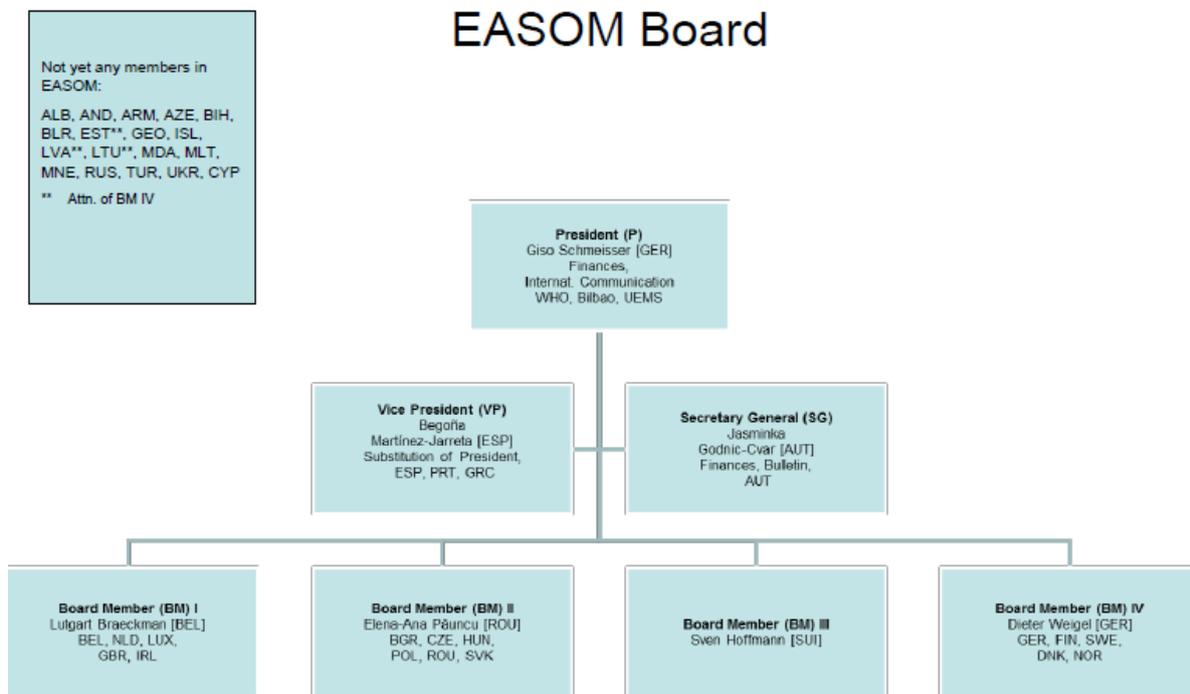
General information concerning this event you will find on <http://easomsummerschool2018.org/> .

The program of the summer school: <http://easomsummerschool2018.org/eng-program.php>



## EASOM BOARD

**Jasminka Godnic-Cvar, Elena-Ana Păuncu**



01-SEP-2016

Dear colleagues, some of the board member terms were or will be completed this year, so they will not be available as Board members any more: Jasminka Godnic-Cvar, Sven Hoffmann, Lutgart Braeckman, Giso Schmeisser, and Jean-Francois Gehanno (from last year).

EASOM members who applied as candidates for the position of the member to the EASOM Management board are (in alphabetical order): Peter Bulat, Marija Bubas, Lode Godderis, Soile Jungewelter, and Nicole Majery.

All EASOM members will have the opportunity to vote for the alignment of the Management Board during the General Assembly at the Summer School in Zagreb. So please attend, and please take your active participation in voting.

Their short Curriculum Vitae (without titles) are attached.

**Petar Bulat**, is born in Belgrade (Serbia) in 1961, he started university career in 1989 as teaching assistant at University of Belgrade Faculty of Medicine (MFUB). In 1992 he became Assistant, in 1996

Assistant Professor, in 2001 Associate Professor, and in 2009 Full Professor (tenure position) of Occupational Health. He was Head of Department of Occupational Health from 2001-2006 and 2009-2012. In 2012 he was elected as Vice-Dean for clinical teaching at MFUB, and reelected in 2015. In May 2018 he was elected as Vice-Rector for education at the University of Belgrade for period 2018-2021. He started professional career as medical doctor at Serbian Institute of Occupational Health (SIOH) in 1989. In 1992 he became specialist in Occupational Health. From 1996 to 2009 he was Head of Occupational Toxicology Clinical Department, Assistant Director (Medical Director) from 2001 to 2009. He was appointed to a position of Assistant Minister of Health for International affairs for period 2011-2012. Prof. Bulat is member of Collegium Ramazzini, ICOH, Serbian Medical Chamber, Serbian Toxicology Society (Vice-President), etc. He served in EASOM Board from 2003 to 2015 (Vice-President from 2006-2015).

**Marija Bubas**, is occupational and sports medicine specialist and lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine Postgraduate study in occupational medicine (University of Zagreb, School of Public Health, Croatia).

Former Head of Department for Education at Croatian Institute for Health Protection and Safety at Work, currently holding position of Director of the Institute and Head of Division for Occupational Health, (co) author of many peer-reviewed scientific articles, co-author of a Handbook on Occupational skin diseases, Manual on exercises in prevention of lower back disorders and a Handbook on Evaluation of Workability.

Participating in EU programs (e.g. COST Action Development and Implementation of European Standards on Prevention of Occupational Skin Diseases (StanDerm) and COST Action Safety Culture and Risk Management in Agriculture (SACURIMA) as a substitute member of the Management Committee. Since 2014 in consultations for European Commission on occupational medicine issues and legislature updates.

In 2014 joins associations like European Network on Workplace Health Promotion (ENWHP), European Network for Education and Training in Occupational Safety and Health (ENETOSH) and International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) as a representative of Croatian Institute for Health protection and safety at Work. Also, since 2014 she was active in ICOH as Secretary of the Scientific Committee Education and Training in Occupational Health (SCETOH) and currently serves as SCETOH Chair. Since 2015 represents Croatian Institute for Health Protection and Safety at Work in European Association of Schools in Occupational Medicine (EASOM).

Special interests: evidence-based practice, quality and effectiveness of education and information, workability assessment of workers with chronic medical conditions and early return to work.

**Lode Godderis** is full professor at the Centre for Environment and Health of the University of Leuven. He investigates the impact of work on health by unravelling the underlying epigenetic mechanism and also the reverse how health can affect work (dis)ability. One of the main topics of interest is health and epigenetic effects related to exposure. He leads the division of the Laboratory of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene. The lab analyses air samples and biological samples of workers. He is also director Knowledge, Information and Research at IDEWE (External Service for Prevention and Protection at Work) where he leads a team specialized in questionnaire studies on psycho-social risks and analysis of medical data for companies and sectors.

He is the current chair of Modernet; an international network for development of techniques for discovering trends in work-related diseases and tracing new and emerging risks. A full list of projects and publications are available: <http://www.kuleuven.be/wieiswie/en/person/00005874>.

**Soile Jungewelter** is a Finnish occupational physician working since over 13 years at The Finnish Institute of Occupational Health in Helsinki, being directly involved in the education of the residents heading for the specialization in OH. She is a part of the constant development of the training program. Furthermore she had an experience of 10 years acting as a clinical lecturer at the university faculty on this field. In 2015, she was elected for a member in the Profession Committee in the Finnish Medical Association, handling with very much the same issues, eg. residents' education.

She is an EASOM member since 2010, and participated at the EASOM Summer Schools in Berlin, Bled and Timisoara, where she had met “the most interesting colleagues with similar goals ahead; the well-being of our residents on our minds. It is most important to have an over-view of the European standards. I think, one can find impressive ways to educate the trainees in every country”.

In her leisure time, she is a passionate reader. Everything goes, but most preferably British crimes. And, when possible, she likes to travel and see the world with her family.

**Nicole Majery** is occupational health physician, head of the STM (40 occupational health physicians, workforce surveyed 260 000 mostly in SMEs). In 2001 she obtained the degree as specialist in Occupational Health, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Brussels, Belgium. In 2011 she obtained the agreement from the Belgian Ministry of Public Health as the Senior Supervisor for the 4 years practical training in occupational health. The number of trainees per years is limited to 10.

The training provided concerns: medical examinations, risk assessment, health promotion and training of the workers.

Occupational health service: Service de Santé au Travail Multisectoriel 32, rue Glesener, L-1630 Luxembourg, Public occupational health service.