

REPORT
EADMT Training Standards Working Group
06/02/20

The Training Standards Working Group has met regularly since Athens GA 2018. It is co-ordinated by Susan Scarth. She is joined by the current members (convened at Lisbon GA 2019); Adda Paizi & Antonia Dakou (Greece), Barbara Birner, Lucia Weber & Nicole Hartman (Germany), Hilda Wengrower (Israel), Ines Federica Tecchiati (Italy), Katalin Szili (Hungary), Liliane Viegas & Isabel Figueira (Portugal), Malgorzata Wisniewska (Poland), Monica Andrici (Rumania), & Paula Martinez (France). Past members who have played a key role over the years and who left the group in 2019 include Chloe Gayet and Tone Seailles (France), Irina Biryukova (Russia), Marcia Plevin (Italy), Mette Orbaek (Denmark) and Kata Vermes (Hungary). At this point it is also important to remember the vital work of Despina Graneta and Maria Artemis (Greece), Cristina Wintels (The Netherlands) and Radana Syrovatkava (Czech Republic). Through all these changes in membership Vincenzo Puxeddu and Susan have retained the management role.

In 2017 at Barcelona GA we presented the Training Standards and the GA agreed to adopt them as a 'working model' and this is what we are currently working with. We also agreed that in 2020 we would apply them to all Full Professional EADMT Members at the time of Membership Renewal. We have arrived at that point. In 2019 the working group developed a questionnaire to be used in conjunction with the Training Standards to identify how each DMT training programme matched against the standards. The questionnaire is, again, a working document and is likely to need some revision as we go through the process and realise the flaws in the system! It has been reported to the GA in Lisbon 2019 that many Member Associations, both Full Professional and Full Basic Members, are requesting that DMT programmes meet the EADMT Training Standards where possible. This has been challenging for some Members and for others the standards have offered a clear template with which to design their programme. 2020 is the year in which we put the standards to the test and see how successful each Member has been in influencing their training institutions to adhere to the EADMT guidelines.

Let's remember why we set out on this journey in the first place! EADMT was formed in 2010 to strengthen the DMT community across Europe, and to raise professional standards, ensuring that the EADMT Members would strive for similar standards of professionalism in their countries. These aims were not challenged, however the process of reaching agreed Training Standards has been challenging in itself. There are cultural differences to consider, political issues that play their part, educational structures differing in each country, but above all there was the Bologna Process 1999, where European educational establishments agreed to meet levels of educational credits (ECTS) for each tier of university learning e.g. undergraduate, post-graduate diploma, master's and doctoral levels. We have matched the ECTS of the Bologna Process to our Training Standards.

The future goal for the Training Standards is that when we can truly say that all European DMTs have trained to a similar level of professional competence we can establish a cross-border agreement between EADMT Members to recognise DMTs from Full Professional Members countries to practice in another EADMT Member country, seamlessly registering on the local Register of Practitioners, providing proof of insurance and evidence of continuing professional studies. This next goal is yet to be fully established; however some Members have already built a clause into their Statutes to state that DMTs from Full Professional Member countries are welcome to register to practice. The details of this must be fully considered and rolled out across all EADMT Members. This will be the focus of discussion in October 2020 in The Netherlands.

Susan Scarth, February 2020