

# Thank you, Joan – a tribute to Joan Peppard's Presidency

Petr Horák<sup>1,2</sup>

Joan Peppard served as the President of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists for the past three years (2015–2018). Under her presidency, EAHP continued to develop as an influential professional organisation, advocating hospital pharmacy, hospital pharmacists and their contribution to public health and European patients.

Joan Peppard studied pharmacy at University College in Dublin, Ireland and graduated in 1979. She continued her studies and received a Diploma in Healthcare Management and BA in Public Management at the Irish Institute of Public Administration. Ms Peppard undertook a 2-year Leadership course with the Office of Health Management (University of Limerick) in 2013, Joan finished her MA (Ethics) at Dublin City University (Ireland), focusing on human rights, ethics and the environment, bioethics and clinical ethics committees.

During her professional career, Ms Peppard worked in several positions in the Midland Health Board, e.g. as chief pharmacist in Mullingar General Hospital. Since 2006, Joan has been working as Chief Pharmacist in the Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore.

## JOAN PEPPARD'S INVOLVEMENT IN EAHP

Following the years when Joan represented Irish colleagues (Hospital Pharmacists Association Ireland, HPAI) as the delegate to the General Assembly, she was elected to the EAHP Board of Directors at the 2012 General Assembly in Budapest.

<sup>1</sup>European Association of Hospital Pharmacists, Brussels, Belgium

<sup>2</sup>Hospital Pharmacy, University Hospital Motol, Prague, Czech Republic

**Correspondence to** Dr Petr Horák; Petr.Horak@eahp.eu

Joan quickly adapted to the new position and widely contributed to the work of the EAHP Board of Directors, developing their professional policies and internal matters. She was elected to the position of President-elect in 2014 at the General Assembly in Sofia. In that role Joan worked on creating the strategy of the European Statements of Hospital Pharmacy implementation as well as preparation of project planning for establishing the Common Training Framework (CTF).

## LEADERSHIP

During the period of her presidency, Joan focused on effective leadership of the Board. This was an important step, as the number of EAHP agendas quickly grew. Joan came up with the model of shared leadership, where all the policy and internal agendas of the Board are led by one of the Board members with co-leadership by the other Board member. This model has proven to be very efficient and contributed also to the smooth transition of the duties between past and present Board members.

Another significant progress achieved under Joan's presidency was the development and broadening of our partnerships with other European and global pharmacy organisations, healthcare and patient associations. These efforts helped significantly in our attempts to bring a wider knowledge about, and acknowledgement of, hospital pharmacists' contribution to patients and healthcare systems, and also led to numerous endorsements of the Statements.

Joan also represented hospital pharmacy in the committees of the important stakeholders, such as the European Medicines Agency. The success of this representation shows by the increasing number of consultations to which we are asked to contribute. It is a significant amount of

work, but first of all a great opportunity for the voice of the hospital pharmacists to be heard.

## COMMON TRAINING FRAMEWORK

A project of a mutually recognised hospital pharmacy postgraduate education has been resonating within EAHP for more than 40 years. Due to the changes in the legal text of the EU Professional Qualifications Directive, it became more concrete after 2013. Much work has been done since then and most of it under Joan's Presidency. The development of the qualification framework has been finished, the proper communication and project strategies leading to, hopefully, successful application were continuously developed. A significant part of the communication strategy was also fulfilled thanks to Joan's high commitment and numerous presentations of the importance and opportunities contained in the CTF during many meetings, national and international congresses.

On a personal note, Joan and I joined the Board the same year and I will always be grateful for the opportunity to learn from her, to see the effective way of leadership, and passion for our patients and hospital pharmacy, the friendly, focused and even insistent, when necessary, management of EAHP matters. Therefore, I am very pleased that Joan agreed to continue serving with the EAHP Board of Directors in her new role as Immediate Past President and advisor to the Board. Having the chance to see her continued high work pace, I am sure that EAHP will very much benefit from this decision and her experience.

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