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

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Commission launches the second EU Health Prize for Journalists

The European Commission has launched the second **EU health prize for journalists** in print and on-line articles. The prize is part of the 'Europe for Patients' campaign launched in September 2008. It aims to stimulate and reward high-quality journalism that raises awareness of healthcare and patients' rights issues. This year's prize follows on from the first health prize for journalists which attracted over 460 articles from journalists from all across the European Union.

Journalists are invited to submit articles published in print or on-line publications between 16 June 2009 and 01 July 2010 using an on-line entry form. The competition closes at midnight on 01 July 2010. The EU health prize for journalists and the Europe for Patients Campaign are funded under the Second Community Health Programme 2008-2013. Further details on the rules and conditions are available on the website - http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/journalist_prize/2010/index_en.htm

World Psychiatric Association (WPA) Task Force on working together with service users and carers

The WPA has invited service users and family carers to join in its work as members of a taskforce, recognizing their essential contribution to improving mental health in any country. The taskforce is preparing recommendations for the international mental health community on best practices in working with service users and carers. The project was established by WPA President Professor Mario Maj to support the WPA Action Plan for the years 2008 to 2011.

The taskforce has three members with a background as service user, three with a background as family carer and six psychiatrists associated with the WPA. Sigrid Steffen, EUFAMI President, is one of the family members. The World Health Organization, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, is helping by offering its experience and advice. The WPA hopes, through the work of the taskforce, to support partnership and participatory developments worldwide, and improve learning from these experiences.

1st International Congress on Borderline Personality Disorder (1-3 July, Berlin- Germany)

The 1st International Congress on Borderline Personality Disorder will take place in Berlin (Germany) from 1st to 3rd July 2010. Over the last years, both basic and applied researches on borderline personality disorder (BPD) have rapidly emerged. The organising Committee is sure that the launching of a first international congress focusing primarily on BPD is almost overdue. At this congress, top scientists and clinicians will give an insight into their newest contributions to the research on BPD and to the treatment of BPD and related disorders. The variety of symposia will surely be stimulating for all participants. Visit www.borderline.congress.org for more information.

The Prize of Geneva for human rights in psychiatry

The Geneva Prize for human rights in psychiatry is intended to acknowledge an individual, without any restriction of gender, age or nationality, or an institution with governmental or non-governmental status, for exceptional achievement at regional, national or international level.

The prize consists of a diploma, medal and a monetary award of 20,000 Swiss francs. A winner receives the prize each 3 years, during the World Congress of psychiatry under the auspices of the Patron's Committee and is accompanied by a press conference intended to publicize the work of the winner. A scientific or cultural event related to the goals of the Foundation may complete the presentation ceremony. The date of the next award - Buenos-Aires (Argentina), 18th September 2011. Nominations should reach the office of the foundation no later than 31 March 2011. Details at www.geneva-prize.ch.

World Fellowship for Schizophrenia and Allied Disorders

The World Fellowship for Schizophrenia and Allied Disorders has merged with the World Federation for Mental Health. In order to keep a distinctive role for families within the WFMH, there is a dedicated section on the WFMH website titled 'Center for Family and Consumer Advocacy and Support' - www.wfmh.org/00CtrCarerConsumer.htm

Youth Health Initiative

As a part of its idea to empower young people to become active partners in improving their health, the European Commission has launched a new Youth Health Initiative. The purpose is to gather all youth-related initiatives in health and related policy areas across the Commission under one banner. For further information on the Youth Health Initiative please visit http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/youth/index_en.htm

New Director General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO)

Paola Testori Coggi has been promoted from 1st April to Director General, leading the health and consumer portfolio in Brussels (and Luxembourg and Grange, Ireland), in succession to Robert Madelin, who has moved on to run the Information Society and Media DG, after 6 years at the helm.

EUFAMI Board of Directors' Meeting

EUFAMI Board members will be meeting in Leuven, Belgium on the 28th and 29th May for their annual Board Meeting.