

The Creation of Scientific Information Networks

Scientific information exchange among professionals working in the area of health sciences during the second half of the 19th century.

Palma de Mallorca, 29th-31st of May 2008

The international healthcare organisations that belong both to the World Health Organisation and to the International League of the Red Cross and the Red Moon Societies were created at the meetings held during the 19th century in order to deal with public health problems at the international level.

The purpose of the seminar is to discuss the role of healthcare professionals and the friendship and the collaboration among them during this period as the originators of such meetings, as well as of the network of scientific relations created thanks to them. Their aim was to place the health of citizens before any other type of interests –in particular, commercial interests– which forced the different States to overcome their traditional reserves with regards to the free exchange of information concerning health problems and the different ways to solve them. From the first Conference on Healthcare held in Paris in 1851 up to the beginning of the 20th century, nine such meetings were held, and from the beginning of the 20th century until 1938 another four took place. It was during the last one, held in Paris, that the League of Nations' Health Organisation was founded, becoming the direct predecessor of the World Health Organisation. During the different meetings, dozens of professionals had the chance to meet and set up a collaboration that determined the creation of wide scope scientific exchange networks.

This issue is open to the participation of all those researchers that are interested in these problems, regardless of the scientific area they belong to. Its immediate aim is to establish information exchanges on this issue in order to open the door to a wider scope of research studies on it.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Dr. Francesc Bujosa Homar, Chairman of History of Science and Director of the Research Group on the History of Health. (GIHS-IUNICS). UIB

Dr. Isabel Moll, Chairman of Contemporary History and member of the GIHS-IUNICS

Dr. Laurinda Abreu, University of Evora. (Portugal).

Dr. Patrice Bourdelais, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales). Paris. (France).

Dr. Sally Sheard, Liverpool University (UK)

LOCAL ORGANISATION COMMITTEE

Dr. Francesc Bujosa Homar.

Dr. Isabel Moll Blanes.

Dr. Gloria Gallego Caminero, Professor at the Nursing and Physiotherapy Department, GIHS-IUNICS, UIB.

Dr. Pere Sales, Professor of Contemporary History, GIHS-IUNICS, UIB

Dr. Joan March Noguera, GIHS-IUNICS, UIB.