



## **CAM conference of 9 October 2012 - Speakers' short biographies**

### **CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION**

#### **Complementary and Alternative Medicine -Innovation and Added Value for European Healthcare**

*Hosted by Elena Oana Antonescu MEP (EPP, Romania)*

*Co-hosted by Sirpa Pietikäinen MEP (EPP, Finland) and Alojz Peterle MEP (EPP, Slovenia)*

*Date: 9 October 2012, 9:00-12:00 & 15:00-18:00 (conference)*

*12:30-14:30 (networking lunch and exhibition opening)*

*Venue: European Parliament, Brussels; room: P7C050*

#### **ERIK BAARS**



**Professor of Anthroposophic Healthcare, University of Applied Sciences, Leiden, the Netherlands**

Erik Baars worked for 16½ years as an anthroposophic physician at the Zeylmans van Emmichoven Clinic and the Bernard Lievegoed Clinic in Bilthoven, the Netherlands. He has a Master of Science in epidemiology and holds a PhD in curative health promotion. He has been coordinator and researcher at the Cats-Polm Institute in Zeist, The Netherlands, and director and senior researcher Healthcare of the Department of Healthcare & Nutrition of the Louis Bolk Institute, Driebergen, the Netherlands. Since 2007 he has also been a part-time Professor (in Dutch: Lector) of Anthroposophic Medicine at the University of Applied Sciences, Leiden, the Netherlands. His particular research interest includes epidemiological and clinical studies, case studies, health promotion, holism-reductionism, anthroposophic medicine, concept development and methodology development for research and clinical practice. He has published approx. 150 papers, articles, book chapters and monographs.

#### **GUSTAV DOBOS**



**Professor of Internal Medicine, Chair of Complementary and Integrative Medicine, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany**

Gustav Dobos is a physician and a Professor for Internal Medicine and Director of the Department for Internal and Integrative Medicine at Kliniken Essen-Mitte in Essen, Germany. The in-patient department holds 54 beds for patients with acute and chronic internal diseases as well as chronic pain and was established as a model institution for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) of the county of North Rhine-Westphalia in 1999. Dobos is a trained internist, specialised in nephrology and internal intensive care medicine and finished his medical and basic science education at the University of Freiburg, Germany, the Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Beijing, China as well as at the Research Institute of Scripps Clinic in La Jolla and the University of California, San Diego, USA. Parallel to his mainstream medical training he was trained in acupuncture, physical therapy, nutritional and complementary medicine as well as in mind-body medicine. In 2004 he was appointed to the Chair of Complementary and Integrative Medicine of the Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach Foundation at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany.

Dobos' scientific interest lies in classical naturopathic medicine, Chinese and mind-body medicine. Special focus of his work is the development of evidence-based guidelines in the field of CAM and mind-body medicine. He is author of more than 100 scientific articles listed in MEDLINE and of 7 books on the topic of CAM and mind-body medicine respectively. He is the current president of the German Society for Naturopathic Medicine.

### **SIMONA DRAGAN**



**Professor of Preventive Cardiology and Rehabilitation, Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, Romania**

Simona Dragan trained as a medical doctor at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Timisoara, holds a PhD (University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara) and MSc in European Studies (University of the West, Timisoara, Romania).

Since 1997 she has worked as a cardiologist at the Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases in Timisoara. She was awarded a Fellowship of Excellence in Medical Education and Research by the Foundation of Advancement of International Medical Education and Research. She was at the Education Council for Foreign Medical Graduates USA Philadelphia at Duke University Medical Center, North Carolina, USA. She has been a member of the American College of Cardiology since 2004, a Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology since 2006, Professor of Preventive Cardiology at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Victor Babes Timisoara since 2009. A vice rector, she has been charged with undergraduate and Master programmes as well as academic evaluation at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Victor Babes Timisoara since 2012.

In the area of Complementary and Alternative Medicines she organized the first postgraduate courses of Integrative Medicine in Romania for family doctors at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Victor Babes. She was the director of 5 research projects on health effects of functional foods with bioactive components from medicinal plants between 2006-2010. In addition, she has been the director of the Foundation of Integrative Medicine Timisoara since 2008, a member in the Romanian management committee of COST actions on functional ingredients from medicinal plants 2006-2008.

She has been responsible for the CAMbrella project for Romania since 2010 and a member of the international scientific board of the European Association of Integrative Medicine since 2011.

## TORKEL FALKENBERG



**Associate Professor of Health Care Research, Research Constellation Leader - Integrative Health Care, Karolinska Institute, and Director, I C – The Integrative Care Science Center, Sweden.**

Torkel Falkenberg, BSc in Biology, PhD (Faculty of Medicine) in Pharmacology/Neuroscience, is an Associate Professor in Health Care Research at Karolinska Institutet, Sweden. He is the research constellation leader for the Integrative Care research group constellation, Division of Nursing, Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society at Karolinska Institutet ([www.ki.se/csc](http://www.ki.se/csc)). His research collaborations, in low and middle income countries as well as in Sweden have resulted in several PhD theses, contributions to international guidelines, and efforts to inform the EU Commission on strategic CAM research financing (CAMbrella). Torkel has been engaged as a consultant to health care planners and decision makers nationally and internationally, including the World Bank and the World Health Organization (WHO) including contributing to several global WHO TM/CAM strategy reports. He is a member of the board of directors of the International Society for Complementary Medicine Research (ISCMR), a member of the editorial board of several scientific journals and director of the independent charitable research foundation - The Integrative Care Science Center ([www.integrativecare.se](http://www.integrativecare.se)).

## DOMINIK IRNICH



**Head of Multidisciplinary Pain Centre, Department of Anaesthesiology, University of Munich, Germany**

Dr med. Dominik Irnich is currently senior physician at the Department of Anesthesiology and Head of the Interdisciplinary Pain Centre at the University of Munich. He is also Adjunct Professor at the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Regensburg (since 1999). He is a member of the ad hoc commission “Multimodal Pain Therapy” of the German Section of the International Association for the Study of Pain (since 2008) and Vice-President and Head of the Educational Centre of the German Medical Acupuncture Association (since 2011). He has a strong research background in the area of the physiology and perception of pain including the effects of CAM in this area. He has more than 50 original publications listed on Medline. As well as receiving a number of awards he has delivered 115 invited lectures on pain therapy, acupuncture and complementary and alternative medicine at different universities worldwide e.g. Harvard Medical School Boston USA, Royal College of Physicians London BMAS, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, American Academy of Medical Acupuncture Chicago, Johann-Wolfgang-Goethe University Frankfurt, University of Heidelberg, University of Tokyo, University of Cairo, etc.

## HELLE JOHANNESSEN



**Professor of Social Studies in Health and Medicine, Institute of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark**

Helle Johannesson holds a PhD in social anthropology and has explored medical pluralism in Denmark, Canada and Italy in fieldwork since the late 1980s. Her primary focus has been on the way illness, disease and healing are framed in multiple forms of clinical practice and in political structures. Since 2005 she has been head of a multidisciplinary research unit that uses qualitative methods in the exploration of health related issues at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Southern Denmark. Furthermore she has received substantial research funding for multidisciplinary research investigating how qualitative and quantitative methods may supplement each other in research on the effects of treatments.

## ANDREW LONG



**Professor of Health Systems Research, University of Leeds, United Kingdom**

Andrew Long is a health services researcher and educator at the School of Healthcare, University of Leeds, England, UK. He leads a research programme on health systems evaluation and outcome measurement, centred on applied health research and research into practice. His specialist interests lie in methodology (quantitative and qualitative, evaluation and critical appraisal), outcome measurement and effectiveness of health and social care, and complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) interventions. He currently supervises a full complement of PhD researchers, with a primary focus on CAM and outcome measurement. His current research centres on the development of a patient-centred outcome measure for persons with hip dysplasia and the development of evaluation frameworks and measures across methods in health and social care and in CAM.

## HARALD WALACH



**Professor of Research Methodology and Complementary Medicine, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder, Germany**

Harald Walach is Director of the Institute of Transcultural Health Sciences at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder), Germany, where he also coordinates a postgraduate training program for doctors in

complementary medicine and cultural studies. He is a Senior Fellow and the Coordinator of the European section of the Brain, Mind, and Healing (BMH) Program of the Samuelli Institute. Dr. Walach holds a double PhD in Clinical Psychology, and History and Theory of Science. With a background in the evaluation of unconventional interventions, research in homeopathy, and mindfulness research, Dr Walach has conducted a variety of clinical, experimental, and epidemiological studies, and has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed papers, several books and numerous book chapters. Over the past five years, he has worked with the University of Northampton, UK, where he built up and directed the MSc Program of Transpersonal Psychology and Consciousness Studies. He is also the editor-in-chief of the Karger journal's "Research in Complementary Medicine – Forschende Komplementärmedizin" and the book series "Neuroscience, Consciousness Spirituality" (Springer). Among his interests are self-healing and the role of consciousness within that process. Placebo-effects have been among the topics he came across quite early on through his research in homeopathy and complementary medicine.

## **WOLFGANG WEIDENHAMMER**



**CAMbrella project leader, Centre for Complementary Medicine Research at the University Hospital 'Rechts der Isar' of the Technical University of Munich, Germany**

Wolfgang Weidenhammer trained as a psychologist. He holds a double PhD in Human Biology (Medical Faculty of Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich) and in Philosophy (Department of Psychology, University Koblenz-Landau).

He worked as an academic researcher at Division of Medical Psychology, Psychiatric University hospital Erlangen from 1986 to 1990. He was Chief bio-statistician at Institut für Klinische Forschung, Hamburg-München (CRO) from 1990 to 1994. Since 1994 he has worked as an academic researcher at the Competence Centre for Complementary Medicine and Naturopathy, University hospital 'Klinikum rechts der Isar', Technical University Munich. He has been its Deputy Director since 1999.

He is the project leader of CAMbrella, the European research network on Complementary and Alternative Medicine, funded under the 7th Research Framework Programme of the European Commission. He is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of TCM Hospital Bad Kötzting, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Medizinische Informatik, Biometrie und Epidemiologie (gmds), the International Society for Quality of Life Research, the International Society for Complementary Medicine Research ISCMR, the Steering group of the European chapter within ISCMR, the Scientific Board of EICCAM. Formerly he was a member of the steering group of Forum universitärer Arbeitsgruppen für Naturheilverfahren und Komplementärmedizin.

Since 1980 he has published approx. 150 scientific papers and articles.

**CLAUDIA M. WITT**



**Professor of Medicine, Institute of Social Medicine, Epidemiology, and Health Economics, Charité University, Berlin, Germany**

Claudia Witt is a Professor of Medicine and the Acting Director of the Institute for Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Economics at the University Medical Center Charité in Berlin Germany. She trained as a medical doctor and an epidemiologist and holds a Master of Business Administration. In addition to her position at the Charité she is a visiting professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and Senior Fellow at the Center for Medical Technology Policy in Baltimore. She is the current president of the International Society for Complementary Medicine Research (ISCMR), is the author of more than 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals and has developed the first international summer school on complementary medicine research methods that is offered annually. Over recent years she has been involved in a number of health economic studies in the field of complementary and integrative medicine.