

UCE Birmingham Conference / Book Launch

Friday February 2nd 2007 UCE Birmingham, Westbourne Campus

Broadening our Horizons Experience and Innovation from Europe

A new series of conferences, bringing ideas and expertise from service users, practitioners and researchers from across Europe

With an opening address by **Benedetto Saraceno, MD.**
Director of Department of Mental Health and Substance Misuse, WHO

This conference brings together expertise from across Europe, aimed at supporting people from all areas of experience who want to develop innovative and participative approaches in their work and organisation.

The conference is part of an EU project 'Experienced Involvement' (EX-IN), which collaborates with people who use services to create work opportunities and develop new ways of providing services. The focus is on inclusive approaches, breaking down barriers between service users, families and friends, carers and professionals.

Thomas Bock MD developed the method of **Dialog Seminars** as a way of opening up dialogue between people with experience, their families and professionals. This will be the first opportunity to hear Thomas in the UK. There will also be a workshop in the afternoon to give more practical ideas about running dialog seminars.

Dr. Harrie V Haaster is a researcher and activist who has worked almost exclusively with Dutch user movements. His presentation 'Experts by Experience: what does it mean?' will outline the impact and value of 'experiential knowledge'.

Laila Gentzel will be launching her book 'Network Contract: A tool for Safe Recovery' (with a complimentary copy for every delegate). Laila has lived with the experiences and the diagnosis of 'manic depressive', using mental health services for over 30 years. She has written a practical account of how involving her personal network of family and friends in her care has been a positive and life changing experience. The book is also inspiring and thought provoking.

Other presentations will include workshops on current EU projects that are putting ideas into action; including user based research; user involvement in education; training with voice hearers; empowerment and advocacy; users as service providers.



For application forms and further information please contact
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