Newsletter 4 from EKTG for eHealth   **View this email in your browser**

European Knowledge Tree Group for eHealth

Dear <<First Name>>

Welcome to our fourth Newsletter.

Fourth DRAFT - COMMENTS WELCOME

Please email comments/suggestions/items for inclusion to alan@willis.uk.com

EKTG for eHealth Strengthens European Links

For some time The EKTG (European Knowledge Tree Group for eHealth) Leadership and Planning Groups have recognised the need for a stronger and more public base for EKTG within the European community.

To this end we have invited eminent people from the diverse groups we work with to take on the role of International Ambassadors. The first to take on this role are:

Christiane Brockes; Head of the Clinical Telemedicine, University Hospital Zurich, Switzerland.

Sabine Lobnig; Global Accessibility Reporting Initiative (GARI), Vienna, Austria

Sofía Moreno-Pérez; Valde Consulting, Madrid ,Spain

Spiros Peristeris; Prescriptive Solutions Entity Services Lt., based in Greece and Cyprus.

Read more about this initiative here...

If you want to know more about us you can download a document that outlines the background and history of EKTG.

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Smart Sensors for Self-Care

On 18th January 2017 the Institute of Measurement and Control, EKTG and five other co-sponsors held a Symposium on 'Smart Sensors for Self-Care'. The programme comprised an eclectic mix of eight presentations that ranged in scope to a sufficient degree that delighted all stakeholders. Read a Report on the Symposium here...

The United Nations needs science advice now more than ever
The UN's Scientific Advisory Board has done pioneering work. If it is not renewed, policy will suffer, say Susan Avery and Maria Ivanova.

 "Science makes policy out of brick, not straw," the Scientific Advisory Board to the United Nations secretary-general wrote in its summary report in September 2016. Twenty-six of us, scientists from a range of disciplines and countries, had worked for more than two years to provide advice on science, technology and innovation for sustainable development to the UN secretary-general. Read more here...

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Direct Payments in Residential Care
Direct payments have been extended to people living in residential care in England for the first time, in a pilot programme initiated by the UK Department of Health (DH).

The payments are one method of delivering personalisation, an approach towards public services where support is tailored to the needs and preferences of individual people, in order to promote independence through greater choice and control. Read more here.

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Public Consultation to evaluate Public-Public Partnerships such as the Active and Assisted Living funding programme
The Active and Assisted Living Joint Programme (AAL JP) was launched for the period from 2014 to 2020. Together with its predecessor Ambient and Assisted Living Joint Programme (2008 – 2013), it has been investing about €650 Million in ICT projects with an ageing dimension. This consultation aims to collect views of the public about the implementation of Public-Public Partnerships under the Horizon 2020 funding programme. Read more…

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Green Paper on Social Care Funding
In his Budget on 8 March, The UK Chancellor announced a Green Paper on social care funding. This is expected round about the Autumn Budget.

Ron Wheatcroft, technical manager at Swiss Re said: "While the Government

income, funding has been insufficient to plug the long term care gap for far too long. The government, industry and society as a whole have a responsibility to develop a sustainable solution which establishes the right balance between state and private provision and which does not penalise self-provision.

"The Green Paper needs to take a rigorous approach to create a sustainable solution where the responsibilities of all are clear but cannot create further delay. For most people, there will be no single product which meets all their needs and we see a role for using savings alongside insurance and equity in property. Alongside this, the Government needs to press ahead with clear messages clarifying responsibilities and growing awareness."

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MAFEIP user community: Assessing innovation in health and care together

MAFEIP ('Monitoring and Assessment Framework for the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing') was initially developed in response to the specific monitoring needs of the EU Innovation Partnership. At present, it must be considered and used as a support to evidence-based decision-making for all institutions and users. You can join now. Read more…

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The Future is Open

The European Commission has sought to promote open access in Horizon 2020. Antoaneta Roussi maps the trickle-down effect among local institutions.

Open-access advocates believe that scientific information should be free. Some would even call it a human right to freely read research projects, download the latest data, and print, distribute, search, crawl and mine the wealth of science. Read more here...

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Survey on eHealth Workforce Development

Healthcare systems nowadays require a robust supply of both highly proficient eHealth/IT professionals as well as an overall workforce that has a sufficient level of digital skills to make the optimum use of eHealth information technology. You can now have your say on this matter: What are the needs, trends and gaps you are experiencing? Read more...

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21st-century healthcare: how technology is revolutionising the National Health Service
A number of tech innovations within the NHS (England) can help provide a more personalised and improved experience for patients. Read the Daily Telegraph article...

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UK Digital Strategy 2017
The Government has released its Digital Strategy, designed to complement its Industrial Strategy. The strategy is made up of seven pillars, and includes a commitment to implement a Universal Service Obligation, giving every individual, business and public premise across the country the right to request an affordable high speed broadband connection, as well as a commitment to invest over £1 billion to accelerate the development and uptake of next generation digital infrastructure - including full fibre and 5G.

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The **Summer EKTG Newsletter** will include similar material. If you would like to suggest material for the next Newsletter please email R.Summers@lboro.ac.uk before 10 May 2017.

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