

tado por la presencia del homenajeadó, que en ningún momento abandonó la sala en la que se realizaban las exposiciones y que, a menudo, participó con aclaraciones y comentarios en la labor de análisis. Aún más atractivo resultó el parcial desvelamiento de los contenidos de su último libro *Cuerpo y alma. Estructura dinámica del cuerpo humano*, cuya redacción concluyó un mes después de celebrarse el Seminario.

Las actas del Seminario se publicarán en breve por la Fundación Germán Sánchez Ruipérez, y ya son numerosas las peticiones tanto de asistentes como de otras personas que, no habiendo podido estar presentes, han hecho constar su interés a los organizadores.

LUIS MONTIEL

NEW DIRECTIONS OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH.
Report from a conference in Stockholm (6-8 September 1991) and the foundation of the EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH in Strasbourg

During recent years the history of health and medicine has become a field for interdisciplinary research. A growing number of elderly people with extensive needs of care, increasing demand of medical service in front of the immense potentials of high-tech medicine during a period of public budget problems in the Western World and health problems in developing countries are three of the reasons why the roots of public health has attracted the attention of researchers as well as politicians, administrators and the general public.

Public health and prevention is a field where researchers meet with their disciplinary backgrounds in historical demography, social history, history of sciences and ideas, sociology, anthropology, etc. The International Conference on this topic in Stockholm, 6-8 September 1991, was organised by the Department of Health and Society in Linköping, Sweden, La Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris and the Wellcome Institute in London together with the Swedish network for the history of prevention. It attracted 60 scholars within all of the disciplines mentioned from Europe, Japan, New Zealand and the United States.

Five topics were discussed during two and a half days: ideas and attitudes, the implementation of health policy, health conditions, local case-studies and comparative approaches. Besides with screening of the present state of art, the reports and the discussions showed that interdisciplinarity and international comparison are keys to a better understanding of the conditions of public health and prevention in relation to its particular organization and achievements in different socio-economic and political milieus, both on national and local level. Results presented also under-

lined the importance of public health for the reduction of health problems and mortality in Europe, Japan and North America during the last centuries. A collection of papers will be published in *Clio Medica* and other journals.

The participants also discussed forms of future communication between scholars of different countries, a continuation of a draft for a new European Association presented in Copenhagen in July 1991. Opinions from the discussion were included in a meeting in Strasbourg on the 27 of September, where an organization was founded: **The European Association for the History of Medicine and Health**. It will be open to academic scholars, including advanced students, who are actively engaged within the defined field. Membership will be granted after the recommendation of two persons who are already members. It was underlined that the Association will be inclusive, not exclusive, in its policy concerning membership and research areas, also allowing membership for non-Europeans.

The site of the Association will be the University of Strasbourg. It will organize its first major conference in Göttingen in September 1993. A scientific council was elected, with the responsibility to promote and support different activities, such as networks, workshops, symposia and international and interdisciplinary research projects. A newsletter will be published by the Secretariat, and further announcements will appear in scientific journals.

Hopefully, these activities will stimulate the future exchange of ideas and help to bring researchers together across national and disciplinary boundaries.

JAN SUNDIN

LA CONFÉRENCE DE STOCKHOLM SUR L'HISTOIRE DE LA SANTÉ PUBLIQUE ET DE LA PRÉVENTION

Une conférence internationale sur l'histoire de la santé publique et de la prévention s'est tenue à Stockholm, dans le cadre inspirant de Lovik du 6 au 8 Septembre 1991. Organisée par le Professeur Jan Sundin, cette conférence était le résultat d'un long travail préparatoire au sein du réseau suédois de recherche interdisciplinaire sur l'histoire sociale de la santé. La qualité du travail préliminaire effectué par nos collègues suédois pour faire progresser la problématique de l'histoire de la santé publique s'est trouvée reflétée dans le succès de la conférence, qui a vu des communications du plus haut niveau, présentées par des participants venus du monde entier. Dans ce domaine multidisciplinaire par excellence qu'est l'histoire de la médecine, l'apport de méthodes spécifiquement historiques et de la perspective nécessairement globaliste qui est celle de l'historien a été particulièrement visible à Stockholm. Des recherches menées isolément dans des cadres nationaux ont pu trouver là un écho important.