

## **Report of the EUTI-Meeting June, 15th 2008 in Goteborg**

During the ITHS in Goteborg (International Tinnitus and Hyperacusis-Seminar), there was an outstanding meeting of members of EUTI.

Attendants were:

Frode Larsen from Denmark, Isabell Diges from Spain, Jan Anjou(Sweden/UK) and Dr. Biesinger.

As guests:

Dr. Birgit Mazurek and Agnes Szczepec from the Charité Berlin, as well as Amy Harrys, Dr. Gary Reul and David P. Fagerlie representing the ATA (American Tinnitus Association). Staffen Bjork.

Professor Goebel from Prien was asked to give an additional lecture, however he couldn't make it to the conference. His intention was to talk about his own project which he has now put up on the EUTI homepage. The given questionnaire (Mini-TF), is an opportunity to address questions to Tinnitus patients around the world.

Rich Tyler from the USA also plans to make his questionnaires accessible to the German population and its Tinnitus patients. The answers on the survey are used for research and is totally anonymous.

Jan Anjou realized a lecture, held by Staffen Björk from the university of Goteborg about the topic "Serious Games".

Jan's idea is it to counsel about noise traumas by using a computer game. It is the goal to address the EUTI problem playful and with interest, especially for children. This lecture was very interesting and it makes sense to develop such a computer game. The costs would be about 25 000 Euros.

All Euti members are asked to find sponsors for this project.

What made this EUTI meeting so special was the attendance of the American Tinnitus Association. ATA's goal is the collaboration with EUTI, in order to raise funds for the research of Tinnitus. Dr. Mazurek is experienced in the raising of funds in Germany and after the meeting she had a separate conversation about this topic with Amy Harris. As it is known, the process of asking for donations is rather difficult in Europe and doesn't have the tradition as it does in the USA. Therefore the represents of ATA were asked to work out proposals, concerning how they imagine the collaboration with EUTI. The proposals should also include ideas of how the two organizations could use the funds together.

This topic will lead to further discussions, possibly during a visit of ATA.

Dr. Mazurek suggested the further discussion of this issue during the next meeting in December 2008 in Munich. It was also proposed to form a scientific advisory board, in order to strengthen the scientific importance of the European Organization. However, the self help is never meant to be lost.

**June, 24th 2008**

**Dr. Eberhard Biesinger**