

European Research Institute for Chaplains in Healthcare

Launch announcement – date for your diary

A celebratory event will be held at KU Leuven, Belgium on 6th June 2017, from 1100 to 1600, to mark the launch of the European Research Institute for Chaplains in Healthcare (ERICH).

ERICH is an initiative of the European Network of Healthcare Chaplains (ENHCC) which aims to enhance spiritual care through equipping and supporting chaplains to perform research. It is a research body formed by chaplains, for chaplains in order to enhance patient care. ERICH is hosted by the Academic Centre for Practical Theology at KU Leuven.

Amongst the keynote speakers will be:

Prof Christina Puchalski

Director of the George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, George Washington University – a world leader in integrating spiritual care into healthcare practice

Prof George Fitchett

Director of Research in the Department of Religion, Health, and Human Values, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago – innovative leader in the promotion of research education within the global healthcare chaplaincy community.

Prof Anne Vandenhoeck

Director of ERICH and Chair of the Academic Centre for Practical Theology,
KU Leuven

The launch will seek to:

- Share ERICH's mission and goals.
- Highlight the significance of spiritual care delivered by chaplains as part of multi-disciplinary teams in a variety of contexts on patient outcome and wellbeing.
- Emphasize the importance of chaplaincy research and research education in enabling best chaplaincy practice and thus patient care.
- Facilitate involvement in ERICH and its activities by European chaplains.
- Share information about plans for collaborative outcome-based chaplaincy research in Europe.

The launch will be of interest to:

- practicing chaplains across Europe,
- strategic leaders in healthcare,
- policymakers,

- researchers in chaplaincy and spiritual care,
- advocates of person-centred and outcomes based healthcare,
- faith communities and belief groups.

Further information regarding the program and application forms to attend the launch in person will be circulated in due course. The number of places is limited so please book early.

It is anticipated that the launch will also be screened live through a KU Leuven web-link enabling wider participation.

For more information contact: Ewan.Kelly@theo.kuleuven.be

To book a place at ERICH's launch contact Acpt@theo.kuleuven.be