



Welcome to the fifth MinD newsletter

Since our last newsletter, we've started coding and analysing the data gathered during exchanges in 2016.

Visit the project website



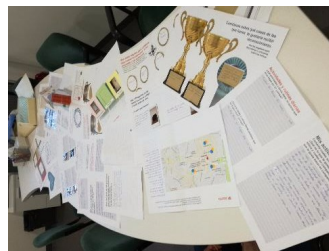
Visit 10

Berlin, DE

Participants from Universite du Luxembourg (LU), University of Wolverhampton (UK) and Universiteit Twente (NL) were hosted by Alexianer Kliniken Berlin (Germany).

During this visit, the team worked on coding the interviews involving people with dementia (PwD) and caretakers, conducted in autumn 2016 in the Netherlands.

Analysing them turned out to be a very insightful journey as it allowed the team to actually step into the shoes of PwD



Visit 11

Valladolid, Spain

Michele Zanasi of Alexianer Kliniken Berlin (Germany) was hosted by Fundación INTRAS (Spain), while working on coding of the Spanish data collected from interviews and visual diaries.

Michele worked with Rosa Almeida from INTRAS to code the interview data, and to collect visual diaries from the people with dementia who had participated in the project, and to talk to them about their experience of filling in the diaries.



Visit 12

Queensland, Australia

Kristina Niedderer of University of Wolverhampton and Julia Garde of Universiteit Twente were hosted by Queensland University of Technology for one month.

They were sent anonymised, digitised versions of the diaries which had been completed by people with dementia in the three countries involved in data collection (Germany, the Netherlands, Spain). They analysed the diaries to identify relevant themes across all three countries.

and their caretakers, and thus to get an inside perspective.

Social-psychological factors such as personality, social support, empathy, and openness towards others turned out to be really important to the way PwD and caretakers experience and cope with dementia.

Meanwhile, paper writing focused on establishing a mindfulness framework, analysing environmental interventions aimed at assisting PwD and improving their wellbeing, and analysing relevant research methodologies.

Data analysis highlighted that people with dementia find it important to still be useful in their setting and active during the day. Their social network is vital support for them; caregivers and friends are the main point of reference in their life.

Many participants seemed not too worried about the illness, but at the same time many of them didn't seem to recognize the new increasing deficits and problems caused by dementia.

The caregivers showed a high stress level and the need for more support. From their perspective, there is a lack of support for people in the early stage of dementia.

QUT also hosted an International Symposium on 'Designing for Dementia' during the secondment. Speakers presented work, results and insights into various aspects around designing, ethics, methodology and environmental considerations and support available for people with dementia.

The symposium was attended by approx. 170 delegates, including architects, formal and informal carers and care professionals, which made for lively and enlightening discussions, and highlighted both progress and much need for further research.

MinD team

Read about our training activities in Year 1.

[Read more](#)

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