

Rosanne Freak-Poli returns home after undertaking WHO Internship



Rosanne Freak-Poli has arrived home from three months in Europe, 2 months of which were in Geneva undertaking an Internship at the World Health Organization. Rosanne worked on policy documents to help member states (countries) implement physical activity on a national level. The 4 documents discussed increasing physical activity through primary care, schools, workplaces and by active travel. While at WHO, Rosanne attended the 65th World Health Assembly (WHA, <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/events/2012/wha65/en/>) where she followed the first Non Communicable Disease (NCD) paper - which officially puts NCDs on the WHO's agenda. During the WHA, she also attended a private meeting between the WHO and a Health Minister wanting advice on implementing physical activity policy on a national level. Rosanne also attended a two day closed meeting of the WHO-Euro regional office discussing Health-Enhancing Physical Activity (<http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/disease-prevention/physical-activity/activities/hepa-europe>) which discussed the practical "how to" in government policy evaluation. The country representatives attending were able to view the differences and similarities between countries, read examples that could be implemented and assess the gaps in their own country. It was a fantastic opportunity to observe how research can be used in practise and to observe how government, stake holders and researchers work together.