



Message from Michael Sparks, President of IUHPE

Dear Colleagues

I regret that I cannot be with you at this meeting but I had prior commitments that prevented me from attending. It was my great pleasure to attend the 1st International and 4th National Congress on Health Education and Promotion, held on 16-19 May 2011, in Tabriz, Iran. At that meeting I was impressed with the beauty of the country, the warmth of the hospitality, the richness of your culture, and the delicious food that was prepared. I also had the opportunity to listen to presentation on health promotion in Iran as well as to make site visits to see first-hand examples of the good work you are doing there. While it is true that your country faces many challenges in implementing twenty-first century health promotion, you grapple with those challenges in a most impressive way. I hope this meeting gives you another opportunity to share information, build stronger networks and determine further health promotion priorities on which to work together. As I have said, I regret that I am not able to join you in this meeting but I wish you every success in it. I feel confident that, as health promotion grows in Iran, it will become a strong regional example of how the principles we hold dear can be applied across a range of diverse settings. You are a committed group of people. I admire your strength and determination and I encourage you to continue to promote health and wellbeing in Iran. The IUHPE is proud to be a partner in this conference and to continue to offer you a global network to be part of. We hope that many of you will be able to share your good works with the world at our 22nd IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion in Curitiba Brazil May 22-26. More information is on the IUHPE website, so please visit it and submit abstracts to that conference. I hope to see you there.

Michael Sparks
President, IUHPE