

**International congress
Dementiafriendly architecture and interior. *Architectonica* understood**

**Thursday 24th of may 2012
Mechelen - Lamot**

Draft program - version 13/01/2012

Target group and objectives

- Managers and directors of nursing homes, who should be able to formulate clearly the needs of persons with dementia in their relation with architects and designers
- Staff and family carers (i.e. members of the family council), who should be well informed partners in the planning process of the building;
- Animators and other staff who engage themselves for a coherent and evidence based interior of an existing building;
- Architects, interior designers, color consultants, ... who should understand the compensating of the physical environment for persons with dementia and who should understand the way of thinking of managers and staff of the nursing home;
- secondary: home care staff: be able to give advice concerning adaptations at home

Text for folder

People with dementia become increasingly dependent of their social and physical environment. In this congress, we focus on the physical side. We explore the newest insights concerning how architecture and shaping interiors can contribute to the quality of life of the person with dementia. What is important concerning sensory comfort? How can we support way finding? How can the environment encourage living and living together? We get answers on these questions from European research and practice in Flemish nursing homes.

This congress is organised following the publication of the book: "Architectonica. A home for people with dementia" (Erik Stroobants and Patrick Verhaest). Participants of the congress receive a copy of the book.

Program:

president: Jurn Verschraegen

8.45u: coffee

9.15u: welcome – Wino Baeckelandt, wnd. president Expertisecentrum Dementie Vlaanderen vzw

9.25u: line of the day – Patrick Verhaest, Expertisecentrum Dementie Vlaanderen vzw

Deel 1. The power of *architectonica*

9.35u: Inleidend: **What we can learn from the perspective of the person with dementia**
Prof. dr. ir. arch. Ann Heylighen – KU Leuven

- How can insight in how the person with a disability (like dementia) experience their environment contribute to a better architecture for all of us.
- Human centred design process – Invitation and challenge to take the perspective of the person with dementia and to engage in the design process

10.05u: **General framework: principles and facts**

Prof. Mary Marshall, dementiaspecialist, DSDC Stirling – UK (Prof. June Andrews came instead)

- Compensating features of the living environment of persons with dementia

- Relationship to vision of care
- Relationship between material and social aspects of the environment

10.45u: Erik Stroobants in dialogue with Carla Molenberghs – Huis Perrekes

11.05u: coffee

Deel 2. Architectonica analyzed

11.25u: **Sensory aspects of the environment** – Dr. ir. Joost Van Hoof – TU Delft (NL)
 > which changes occur in sensory perception in dementia and how can the environment compensate for it (visual (incl. light); auditory; air, smells, touch, thermal aspects)

12.15u: **the power of nature and outdoor** – Dr. Garuth Chalfont – musician and architect UK
 > dementiafriendly garden
 > to get nature inside
 > experience of the outdoor from inside (edge zone)

12.45u: lunch

13.40u: Erik Stroobants in dialogue with Paul Braem, de Maretak Brugge

14.00u: **to support way finding** – Dr. Gesine Marquardt, architect - TU Dresden (D)–
 > the relationship between floor plan, environmental elements and orientation of the person with dementia

14.30u: Natural use of spaces - Dr. Kevin Charras, environmental psychologist, Fondation Médéric Alzheimer, Paris (F)
 Domesticity, recognisability and personalisation and natural use of spaces
 Encourage activity and social contacts between person with dementia, staff and visitors

15.10u: Erik Stroobants in dialogue with Michiel Verhaeghen, Osar architects, architect Menos Genk

15.30u: coffee

Deel 3. Finally

15.50u: **implications for home care** – Dr. ir. Joost Van Hoof – TU Delft (NL)
 And relative place of domotica

16.05u: **care buildings in society** - Peter Swinnen, head of the Flemish Government Architects Team: vision and good practices

16.30u: Policy perspective: Flemish minister of Welfare - Jo Vandeurzen

16.45u: What now?

17.00u: Closure