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## EMCC 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards

**Brussels, Belgium, 22 November 2012** – Founded in 1992, the European Mentoring & Coaching Council (EMCC) began its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations at the EMCC 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Mentoring and Coaching Conference in Bilbao, Spain 15-17 November 2012.

As part of the celebrations EMCC had asked its membership to nominate candidates for a special anniversary award. The panel presiding over the awards consisted of EMCC President Lise Lewis, EMCC UK Honorary Vice-president Eric Parsloe and COMENSA Founding President Sunny Stout Rostron. The panel used the following criteria for the awards: representative of membership across EMCC, aligned to EMCC focus and strategy, inspiration to others/significant contribution and focus on both mentoring and coaching. The panel decided on five awards and the categories and recipients are:

- Individual Practitioner – Mentoring – Tuula Lillia, Finland
- Social Responsibility – Solidarity Coaching – EMCC France
- Coaching Programme – Deutsche Telekom, Germany
- Coaching Organisation – Burnley Borough Council, UK
- Outstanding Contribution to EMCC – Irena Sobolewska – EMCC General Secretary



Photos Left to Right: 1. Tuula Lillia, Finland. 2. Guilaïne Arduin Roullier and Eveline Forlot collecting the award on behalf of the EMCC France Solidarity Coaching Team with EMCC President Lise Lewis (centre). 3. Peter van Eyk (EMCC Germany President) with EMCC President Lise Lewis collecting the Deutsche Telecom award on behalf of Susanne Klein and her team. 4. Ian Paterson (EMCC UK Managing Director) with EMCC President Lewis collecting the award on behalf of Burnley Borough Council. 5. Guilaïne Arduin Roullier, Eveline Forlot (Solidarity Coaching, EMCC France), EMCC President Lise Lewis, Tuula Lillia (Individual Practitioner – Mentoring, Finland) and Irena Sobolewska, EMCC General Secretary (Outstanding Contribution to EMCC)

"These awards are a great way to celebrate everyone who has worked hard over the last 20 years to make mentoring and coaching what it is today" said EMCC President Lise Lewis as she introduced the award winners.

"This is such a big surprise but especially a great honour and a privilege for me personally as well as for Finnish mentoring. There are many wonderful women, good colleagues, who have been working for Finnish mentoring for 20 years. And there are many, many younger women, who continue with such energy in the field. With all of them I



wish to share this Award” said Tuula Lillia as she accepted the award for Individual Practitioner – Mentoring from the EMCC President Lise Lewis. “I strongly believe that mentoring is a unique means of developing people during these challenging times when creativity and resourcefulness are required. Mentoring suits everybody, everyway - and any time.”

“The Solidarity Coaching Programme is our membership’s way of giving something back through pro bono coaching of people who cannot afford coaching. Currently 1/3 of EMCC France’s members take part in the Solidarity Coaching Programme” said Eveline Forlot as she received the award from the EMCC President Lise Lewis on behalf of the whole of the Solidarity Coaching team in EMCC France. “I am especially proud that we have already started to rollout the programme to other EMCC countries, namely Luxembourg, Greece and Sweden. This award will raise awareness and our aim is to have all 20 EMCC affiliated countries participating in the programme.”

“The Deutsche Telekom coaching programme has been instrumental in changing not just the leadership style but the very lives of many engineers and technical managers in our company” said Suzanne Klein via a video when receiving the EMCC award. “I am proud to have been part of this programme.”

“Burnley Borough Council decided to implement a coaching programme in 2009 despite the start of economic difficulties in the UK and around the world” said Gina Cole via a video when receiving the EMCC award. “It has been instrumental in changing the mindset of our managers, our employee satisfaction has risen and it has helped us cope with the tough times”.

“I’m speechless, thank you” said Irena Sobolewska, EMCC General Secretary, when collecting her award for outstanding contribution to EMCC from EMCC President Lise Lewis. “It was very difficult keeping this award secret from Irena” said EMCC President Lise Lewis “Irena’s the one who organised the awards and we wanted to make sure she didn’t find out about this one. I’m delighted to say we managed it!”

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EMCC is the European body for mentoring and coaching with 5,000 members across 67 countries and 20 affiliated countries. The EMCC exists to develop, promote and set the expectation of best practice in mentoring and coaching across Europe and beyond, for the benefit of society. For more information visit [www.emccouncil.org](http://www.emccouncil.org).

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