



# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

*Affiliated with the International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine*

## **Minutes of the IFMBE General Assembly, Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> 2000, Chicago - USA**

### 1. OPENING REMARKS. PRESIDENT JEAN-PIERRE MORRUCI:

Jean-Pierre Morucci opens the meeting and welcomes the delegates, committee and division chairmen and the members of the Administrative Council present.

Dov Jaron (USA) moved a motion to approve the agenda. Uwe Faust (Germany) seconded and the agenda was approved unanimously.

### 2. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Credentials Committee verified the credentials of the delegates and determined the quorum. Green delegate sign was handed out to be used in voting and as identification for receiving ballot forms. On behalf of the Credentials Committee Heikki Terio reported on the status of the delegates present.

\* 37 National Societies, 75 voting delegates

\* 2 Transnational Societies, 6 voting delegates

\* 7 voting members of the Administrative Council

Total number of voting delegates 88

#### National and Transnational Member Societies present:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, China-Taipei, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA, IEEE/EMBS, ESEM

Absent: Colombia, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Thailand, Ukraine,

#### Members of the Administrative Council present:

Jean Pierre Morucci, president, (France)

Fumihiko Kajiya, past president, (Japan)

Dov Jaron, vice-president, (USA)

Heikki Terio, secretary general, (Sweden)

Mladen Poluta, treasurer, (South Africa)

Helmut Hutten, (Austria)

Joachim Nagel, (Germany)

Antonio Infantosi, (Brazil)

Joe Barbenel, (United Kingdom)

Walter Chang, (China, Taipei)

Jos Spaan, (The Netherlands)

Janie Fouke, (USA)

Zibin Yang, (China)

3. MINUTES OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY 1997 IN NICE, FRANCE

Jos Spaan briefed the Minutes of the General Assembly of Nice in 1997. It was pointed out that on the page 2, item 5 there should be 2000 in the sentence "The goal by the year 200 will be" Dov Jaron moved to accept the Minutes, Helmut Hutten seconded. The motion is carried unanimously.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1997-2000

Jean-Pierre Morucci briefed his report and stressed the importance of the membership of ICSU. He recognized also the efforts Niilo Saranummi, (Finland) had done as the Editor of the IFMBE News. The report was well received and accepted.

5. SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT 1997-2000

Heikki Terio briefed his report for the time 1997 – 2000. He pointed out that a good communication network is very essential for the Federation work, but unfortunately it is very hard to maintain. The addresses to the contact persons, secretaries and officers of the Societies become regularly out of date and the Secretary General's Office do not get the new information. He asked all the Delegates to ask their Societies to update the contact information.

Heikki Terio also asked the delegates of the General Assembly to observe the different reports that are attached the material for the General Assembly and study them. If the delegates have any questions, what so ever concerning these reports they are welcome to approach Secretary General or the author of the report.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT 1997-2000

Mladen Poluta briefed the Treasurer's report and the report from the Finance Committee. He pointed out that the main source of IFMBE's income is the Journal of the Federation. He encouraged all the delegates to promote the Journals in their countries. Richard Kirsner (Australia) moves a motion, seconded by Jos Spaan, to accept the report of the Finance Committee. Motion is carried unanimously.

7. EDITOR'S REPORT 1997-2000

Alan Murray (United Kingdom), the Editor of the Federation Journal explained the contents of his report. Jaakko Malmivuo (Finland) asked what the impact factor of the Journal is, but Alan Murray could not give the actual figure for 1999. The previous one, from 1998 was 0,86. Alan Murray said that there is food hope that it will be over 1,0 this year. Alan Murray stressed that everybody should see that their libraries have the Journal.

Alan Murray reported that it is no longer possible to sustain a separate section for Cellular Engineering, and so from 2001, Cellular Engineering papers will be incorporated fully into *MBEC*, and Cellular Engineering will become a subgroup, comparable to all other groups. He said that there are only 2 papers in pipeline for publishing in the Cellular Engineering. However, the Federation Journal Committee (FJC) will contact person who can improve the situation in the future.

Niilo Saranummi, the Editor of the IFMBE News briefed the discussion that has been in FJC and AC concerning the future of the News. The main question has been, do we want to continue with the news? And if so, is it possible activate our community to volunteer news and information or at least make the life a little bit easier for the editor in locating material for the news? Both the AC and FJC feel that the Federation needs a newsletter and therefore he encouraged everybody to send him

material.

The next question is if we still need the paper version of the news or can we be satisfied with an electronic version? The cost to produce the paper version is very high and will increase in the future. The material to the News is already today in electronic format and can easily be reproduced in html. The Administrative Council and the secretaries of the member societies are in favour. IFMBE AC has mandated the FJC to decide in its autumn meeting if the production of the paper version of the news will be stopped and an electronic version produced in 2001. This means that the last paper version would be the November 2000 issue

Dan Adam (Israel) moved to accept the report of the FJC, Ratko Magjarevic (Croatia) seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.

#### 8. MEMBERSHIP: NEW MEMBERS

There were three National Societies that had applied for membership. The Constitutions and Bylaws Committee of IFMBE had examined the membership applications, including Constitution and Bylaws, and agreed that all are eligible for IFMBE Membership. The Societies were presented before the vote. All three Societies were elected members of IFMBE according to the results below.

?? Ireland, against none, abstentions no, all in favour.

?? Latvia, against none, abstentions no, all in favour.

?? Yugoslavia, against none, abstentions 4, 84 in favour.

#### 9. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Fumihiko Kajiya (Japan) reported that the committee has with the assistance of the IFMBE Secretariat called for nominations for the vacant positions in the IFMBE Administrative Council and additionally in the Boards of the two IFMBE Divisions, namely Clinical Engineering and Healthcare Technology Assessment. The committee has been assisted by the chairmen of the both divisions (Peter Heimann and Jan Persson) regarding nominations in their respective division boards. In accordance with the Constitution & Bye-Laws the committee has elicited some additional candidates for officer positions as the member societies did not provide enough nominations.

The Nominating Committee shall also be responsible for soliciting nominations for Honorary Life Membership from the Member Organizations, for the preparation of a list of candidates under Article 4 of the Constitution, and for the presentation of this list to the General Assembly. The Nominating Committee can itself originate nominations for Honorary Life Membership. This year the number of nominees was greater than the previous congresses. But this is reasonable because there were no nominees in Nice.

Honorary Life Members are individuals who have rendered exceptional service to the Federation may have bestowed on them the title of Honorary Life Member. The following persons were nominated out of a number of candidates for Honorary Life Membership

**Annelise Rosenfalck**

**Åke Öberg**

**Nandor Richter**

**Kazuhiko Atsumi**

**Maciej Nalecz**

**Daniel Laurent**

The General Assembly endorsed by acclamations the election of above-mentioned persons to Honorary Life Members.

IFMBE has established two new awards; Otto Schmitt Award and Vladimir K. Zworykin Award. Dov Jaron explained that the Merit Award committee had during its deliberations, observed that we had a number of outstanding candidates and the selection of the IUPESM Merit Award recipient became extremely difficult. In addition, the committee felt that there are a number of individuals, who should be recognized for their contributions to Biomedical Engineering and that IFMBE has a very limited awards program. Therefore, the committee made a recommendation to the IFMBE Administrative Council to establish a new IFMBE Award, which would be given during the tri-annual Congress. The committee has also recommended an individual to receive this award if the Council approves it. Fumihiko Kajiya proposed during the first discussions about the Otto Schmitt Award that we also honor the IFMBE founder Vladimir K. Zworykin by establishing an award in his name. Both these awards were established by unanimous vote.

Dov Jaron asked the members Societies to make nominations for these two new awards in the future.

The future of the IUPESM was discussed during the General Assembly held in Nice, France in 1997. This meeting decided to evaluate the situation of IUPESM for the years 1998 and 1999. IOMP decided to do also an evaluation. Niilo Saranummi briefed for the status of today both from IFMBE side and from IOMP side. The evaluation showed that achievement like the full membership in ICSU creates future opportunities for world-wide collaboration that otherwise would be difficult. The Administrative Council unanimously decided that IFMBE endorse the continuation of the membership in IUPESM and it recommends the General Assembly to vote for the continuation. Dov Jaron commented that it is important to very strongly support the membership because the IUPESM's membership in ICSU

Sally Chapman (Canada) moved to re-confirm the IFMBE membership in IUPESM; Helmut Hutten seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

## 10. ELECTIONS

The candidates for the officer's posts presented themselves in alphabetic order.

<b>Vice-President/President elect</b>	<b>Number of votes</b>	
Joachim Nagel, Germany	52	Elected
Nicolas Pallikarakis, Greece	36	
<b>Secretary General</b>		
Heikki Terio, Sweden	82	Elected for 3 years
<b>Treasurer</b>		
Mladen Poluta, South Africa	84	Elected for 3 years
<b>AC members</b>		
Marc Nyssen, Belgium	55	Elected for 6 years
Fernando Catelli Infantosi, Brazil	48	Elected for 6 years

Myoungho Lee, Korea	41	Elected for 6 years
Didier Geiger, France	37	Elected for 6 years
Takeyoshi Dohi, Japan	35	
Damijan Miklavcic, Slovenia	29	
Depei Liu, China	28	
Kalju Meigas, Estonia	24	

Election for the positions of board members (3) of the  
**Division for Health Care Technology Assessment:**

	Number of votes	
Rosimary Almeida, Brazil	65	Elected for 6 years
Shmuel Einav, Israel	53	Elected for 6 years
Slavik Tabakov, Bulgaria	39	Elected for 6 years
Yimin Hu, China	34	
Gon Khang, Korea	26	

Election for the positions of board members (4) of the  
**Clinical Engineering Division:**

	Number of votes	
Frank Painter, USA	52	Elected for 6 years
Enrico Nunziata, Italy	47	Elected for 6 years
Ernesto Rodriguez Denis, Cuba	41	Elected for 6 years
Roger Schmitt, Germany	40	Elected for 6 years
Sun I. Kim, Korea	28	
Andreas Malloupas, Cyprus	26	
Jose Carlos Teixeira de Barros Moraes	23	
Zhou Dan, China	13	
Boris Gramatikov, Bulgaria	13	

## 11. WORLD CONGRESS SITE SELECTION

Site selection World Congress 2006: There were 4 cities nominated as site for the world congress in 2006. These cities with the number of votes are:

Seoul, Korea 43  
 Lausanne, Switzerland 26  
 Hong Kong, 15  
 Jerusalem, Israel 7

These votes will be taken to the IUPESM meeting and when combined with the IOMP votes the site for World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering in 2006 will be determined.

## 12. INVITATION TO WORLD CONGRESS 2003

Richard Kirsner (Australia) presented Australia and Sydney where the WC2003 will be held. He told about the organising efforts for the conference and about the Sydney Convention Centre at the Darling Harbour. The organisers are keen on making it easy for everybody to join the conference and combine

it with a holiday. Richard Kirsner invited everybody to visit the Australian booth in the exhibition area and get a Koala as souvenir.

#### 13. PRESENTATION OF NEW OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

President Jean-Pierre Morucci past on the presidency to Dov Jaron, and expressed his gratitude to all AC members and the Delegates of the General Assembly.

The new Administrative Council

**Officers:**

President Dov Jaron, USA

Vice President Joachim Nagel, Germany

Past President, Jean-Pierre Morucci, France

Treasurer Mladen Poluta, South Africa

Secretary General Heikki Terio, Sweden

**Ordinary Members of Council:**

Joe Barbenel, United Kingdom

A. Fernando Catelli Infantosi, Brazil

Walter Chang, China Taipei

Janie Fouke, USA

Didier Geiger, France

Myoungho Lee, Korea

Marc Nyssen, Belgium

Jos A.E. Spaan, The Netherlands

Dov Jaron expressed his thanks to Jean-Pierre Morucci for his dedications and outstanding contributions as president the last three years. It was meant that Jean-Pierre Morucci would have received a plaque, but unfortunately Secretary General's suitcase, where the plaque was, did not come to Chicago because of negligence of American Airlines. Jean-Pierre Morucci will get the plaque later. Dov Jaron apologises also for the room that was much too small and for the delay of the papers, which we had to re-print since the originals were in the same suitcase as the plaque.

#### 14. ADJOURNMENT

Heikki Terio

IFMBE Secretary General

Stockholm, Sweden